

THE MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

JUNE AND JULY, 1841.

ARTICLE X.

RESIDENCE IN HOLLAND OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS.*

THE compilation of Mr. Young gives a very favorable opportunity for the examination of some details in the history of the pilgrim settlers of Plymouth, which have not been universally attended to ; an opportunity such as was before enjoyed but partially, even by the antiquary, who had access to the publications of the times in which they lived.

The accession of James I. to the throne of England, in 1603, may be considered as about the era, from which the separate existence of the Pilgrims as a community dates. In the preceding year, they had separated themselves from the church of England, or, as they express it, "had shaken off the yoke of antichristian bondage, and as the Lord's free people, joined themselves, by a covenant of the Lord, into a church estate, in the fellowship of the gospel, to walk in all his ways, made known or to be made known unto them, according to their best endeavors, whatsoever it should cost them." At the accession of James I., some hopes were entertained that his views on religious matters might be more favorable to them than were those of his predecessor ; but these expectations were disappointed. James was too much an arbitrary sovereign, to permit any

* *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers of the Colony of Plymouth, from 1602 to 1625. Now first collected from original Records and contemporaneous printed Documents, and illustrated with Notes, by Alexander Young, pp. 504. Boston : Charles C. Little & James Brown. 1841.*

fancies in religious matters to encourage the growth of liberal opinions among his people. As early as Jan., 1604, he declared, "I will none of that liberty as to ceremonies ; I will have one doctrine and one discipline, one religion in substance and ceremony. I shall make them [the Puritans] conform themselves, or I will harry them out of the land, or else do worse." He preferred to have obedient, rather than free-thinking subjects ; he wished his people to obey his edicts, even if they differed from his own former theology ; he could more easily and comfortably twist his own theological opinions, than countenance doctrines which infringed on his own supremacy in church and state. All hopes, therefore, which the newly-formed church had entertained, of encouragement or toleration, were entirely frustrated ; they were obliged to continue separatists from the established church, and eventually, in 1606, they were settled in two bodies or churches, with similar modes of belief, in different parts of England. The one with which at present we are particularly concerned, was established among the people of Lincolnshire, and the neighboring counties ; Richard Clifton, and John Robinson, whose name was afterwards identified with the history of the New-England Puritans, were the first pastors.

Under this organization, however, they were not permitted to live at peace : "they were," says Governor Bradford, "hunted and persecuted on every side, so as their former afflictions were but as mole-hills to mountains, in comparison to these which now came upon them." The officers of government were constantly on the watch for them ; some were imprisoned, others obliged to fly from their homes and occupations, to escape from the ecclesiastical persecutions. Suffering constantly such oppression at home, and yet so resolute in their faith, as to be unwilling, on any consideration, to abandon it ; their thoughts naturally turned on their means of emigration to some other country. Holland, at that time just resting from its first struggle with Spain, a truce for twelve years between the two countries having been concluded in 1607, seemed to be an inviting location ; the utmost religious freedom was allowed there ; it was a common harbor of all opinions and heresies.* The Puritan church establish-

* In Beaumont and Fletcher's play, "The Fair Maid of the Inn," a character is made to say

"I am a schoolmaster, sir, and would fain
Confer with you about erecting four
New sects of religion at Amsterdam."

The play was undoubtedly written while the pilgrims were in Holland. The first play of these authors was acted in 1607, and Beaumont died in 1615. This is, perhaps, the first allusion made to the pilgrims in contemporary writing, and is no bad specimen of the estimation in which they were held at the time, among the more polished English circles.

ed under Johnson, in London, in 1592, had removed to Amsterdam, and was settled there, and thither the persecuted Puritans of Mr. Robinson's flock determined to go, having existed as a society about a year, meeting every Sabbath in some place, notwithstanding all the opposition which had been made to them.

It was not so easy to go to Holland, however, as to determine to ; though this was hard enough to men who were bound to England by all the ties of home, family, and property. Arbitrary as he was, James was not willing to adhere to his intention of "harrying them out of the country ;" they were now to experience the "something worse," which he had hinted at. A large number of them had hired a ship at Boston, in Lincolnshire, to be entirely at their own disposal ; she was to be ready at a certain day at a place agreed upon, to take them and their goods on board. They were ready at the appointed place and time, but, notwithstanding the compensation agreed upon, the shipmaster broke his contract, delayed for some time, and finally took them on board at night. As soon as they were embarked with their property, he treacherously betrayed them, having previously agreed to do so with the crown officers ; they were rifled of their money, books, and other goods, literally stripped of their clothes, and carried back to the town. After being exposed in this condition to the rabble, they were presented to the magistrates, and kept in custody till directions concerning them could arrive from London. Ultimately, after a month's imprisonment, most of them were dismissed, but seven of the leaders were kept imprisoned for trial at the assizes. We can imagine the degree of suffering to which this treachery exposed them. Brewster must have needed all his Christian forbearance, when he saw his precious library, his companion and consolation in so many troubles, fall a prey to constables and tide-waiters, to whom all the volumes were alike, in dead languages. He was a man of a good education, who had seen the world ; he was the confidential servant of William Davison, Elizabeth's Secretary of State, for many years, living with him before and after he was made the victim of that contemptible plot, by which Elizabeth attempted to destroy her rival, but save her own reputation ; and was of much assistance to him in his imprisonment and distresses. The reader of the history of the unfortunate Mary Stuart, in peopling some of the scenes of the closing act of the drama of her life, must not forget the uncompromising, but tender-hearted and compassionate man, who afterwards was ruling elder of the infant pilgrim church in Holland and New England. His library, which, as we have said, was seized at Boston, was large for the time, and many of the books were in the learned languages.

All the stores with which they intended to emigrate seized—them-

selves imprisoned for a month—they did not conform or fall back ; it was perhaps the last lesson of the persecutions of their native land. Yet this was only the beginning of troubles. The next spring they made another attempt. A party of them contracted with a Dutch skipper at Grimsby, to take them on board from a common near that place, and carry them to Zealand. It appears to have been out of the question for them to attempt an embarkation in any populous place. He was more honest than their own countrymen, kept his word, and came to the rendezvous. The tide, however, did not serve ; the Puritans were in a little vessel with their goods, proposing to transfer these to the Dutch ship when she arrived ; but unfortunately, at this time, this lighter was aground. The skipper sent his boat to bring off the people ; but, after the first load had passed, a great company of armed men appeared in the distance, the place of embarkation being detected. The Dutchman looked at the enemy, and thought he had risked enough, swore one oath, "sacrament !" hauled in his boat, hoisted anchor, set sail, and away with a fair wind. The pilgrims who were on board would gladly have been back again, but the captain was inflexible ; and leaving their wives and children in unknown distress, they were hurried away. Nor was theirs a trifling voyage. Fourteen days and nights passed on their voyage ; they endured a fearful storm, and their vessel was in the utmost danger. For seven days they could see neither sun, moon nor stars ; the ship was tossed about on the coast of Norway. She was in danger of foundering, the waves broke over her constantly, the mariners despaired, shrieked and cried aloud, and the pilgrims prayed. "We sink, we sink," cried the appalled seamen. "Thou, Lord, can'st save ; Lord, thou can'st save," responded the trustful pilgrims. The storm subsided, and after a fortnight's voyage, they arrived at Zealand. Bradford, afterwards governor of Plymouth, was one of this party, a young man, eighteen years old. Hardly had he landed in Zealand, when he was once more seized by an Englishman, who carried him to a magistrate, as escaped from justice at home. Bradford explained, however, what variety of justice it was, which he had fled from, and the magistrate readily liberated him, and treated him with kindness.

Meanwhile, the little body left on Grimsby beach had their troubles. Most of the men escaped from the approaching enemy, leaving only a few to take care of the women and children. These were arrested, but nobody who had them in charge, had ingenuity enough to discover any crime on which they could be retained. Every constable, accordingly, to whom they were delivered, unwilling to give them up entirely, yet unable to convict them for having wished to go abroad with their husbands and fathers, delivered them to some other ; they

could not be sent home, for they had no homes to go to, and thus eventually they became such a burden to the officers, that they were glad to be rid of them on any terms, and in various times and ways they secured a passage to their adopted country.

Holland was, as we have seen, just pausing after its first struggle for independence. To the Puritans, accustomed only to the peaceful habits of country life in England, the whole face of the country had a remarkable aspect. Fortified cities and armed men, were to them as great a curiosity as the strange language, dress and customs of their new homes. But they had little opportunity to indulge their curiosity by seeking out the wonders of peace or battle ; "they had other work in hand, and another kind of war to wage and maintain. For, though they saw fair and beautiful cities, flowing with abundance of all sorts of wealth and riches, yet it was not long before they saw the grim and griseled (grisly) face of poverty coming on them like an armed man, with whom they must buckle and encounter, and from whom they could not fly." This is the language of Gov. Bradford ; it shows that at that early day, the Puritans felt the true Yankee spirit. They first selected Amsterdam for their place of residence, because there, as we have said, were a body of Englishmen, holding the same faith with themselves. Here they resided for about a year, but finding that the two bodies of Puritans who had settled there before them had begun to disagree with each other, they thought it best to remove themselves from such a contentious neighborhood, and establish themselves at Leyden. This was done at the instance of Robinson, to whom they were constantly, ardently attached. Leyden was a location pleasant to him and to all of them, as the seat of the University, and consequently the residence of many learned men.

Here settled, they applied themselves as earnestly as possible to such employments as they could practise best, their removal from the seashore rather injuring their property, as it prevented marine commerce. They were not too proud to work, and many of them, as they had been used at home, set up their looms, and plied their shuttles. Gov. Bradford bound himself to a French dyer, and earned his bread by dying silks, and Elder Brewster, true to his literary tastes, established himself as a printer. Their church was of course the matter of most interest to them all. It was at once re-established under the forms to which they had been accustomed, the grave men, chosen as ruling elders, once more exercised their vocations, without fear of attack from without. The simplicity of their customs, both in their church discipline and in their every-day life, may be gathered from that of their brethren at Amsterdam. They had among their church officers an ancient widow, whom they had chosen deaconess ; who sat in a convenient place in the congregation, with

her little birchen rod in her hand, keeping the little children in great awe from disturbing the worshippers. Good woman—who shall say what unruly dispositions she nipped in the bud? Who can tell in how many minds, habits, first formed by the awe-inspiring rod, grew into inspiring and comforting sentiments of reverence and religion? We will not forget of her that she visited the sick and the weak in their troubles, and served as the vidette in the field of charity, who should discover affliction, and lead those who were able, to relieve it. Her usefulness was rightly esteemed,—“she was obeyed as a mother in Israel, and an officer of Christ.”

The frugality of the settlers may be seen, from the income of Mr. Ainsworth, the pastor of the Amsterdam church. Ainsworth was a learned man; he had the reputation at Leyden, of being one of the best Oriental linguists of his time. Modest, amiable, and sociable, eloquent in preaching, fluent in delivery, perfectly versed in the Scriptures, of which he was an able critic, he deserved some higher situation than that which he held with the refractory flock at Amsterdam. They, like our forefathers, the Leyden pilgrims, were poor men; many of them had been imprisoned, many had escaped from exile in Newfoundland, and all were strangers in a strange land. Poor Ainsworth, a newly-fledged student of divinity from Ireland, met them in Holland, and became their teacher. It was every body’s business to see that his teachings were repaid, and consequently no one did it; and it was only by accident discovered that he was living on nine pence a week, an income which, as may be supposed, only supplied his wants in the most limited manner. They provided for him comfortably afterwards, but took occasion also to quarrel with him, because the poor man, on a visit to England, had, for a recreation, treated himself to—a visit to hear a powerful preacher of the established church. They even deposed him from his office; but here the kind offices of our friends at Leyden made up the quarrel, and the parties were reconciled. Ainsworth died as he had lived. He found one day a diamond of value in the street, and advertised it. The owner, a Jew, came to claim it, and offered Ainsworth a reward. True to himself and his vocation, he claimed one—the privilege to hold a public disputation with the most learned Jewish rabbins. The privilege was granted him, but subsequently withheld; Ainsworth was resolute, however, in claiming it, and, as was believed at the time, he was poisoned, that he might be silenced. The reader will take the story for what it is worth; we cannot but think, with Gov. Bradford, that the times and place in which he lived, were not worthy of him; in the nineteenth century, he might—possibly—have been esteemed as he should be.

An extract from a dialogue, written by Gov. Bradford, professing

to be between some young and old men in New England, respecting the early history of the Puritans, now first published in Mr. Young's work, from an ancient manuscript, will further illustrate their frugality, and the oddity and quaintness of these ancient documents.

"**YOUNG MEN.** But Mr. Johnson is much spoken against for maintaining his wife's cause, who was by his brother and others reproved for her pride in apparel.

"**ANCIENT MEN.** In our time, his wife was a grave matron, and very modest, both in her apparel and all her demeanor, ready to any good works in her place, and hopeful to many, especially the poor, and an ornament in her calling. She was a young widow when he married her, and had been a merchant's wife, by whom he had a good estate, and was a godly woman, and because she wore such apparel as she had formerly been used to, which were neither excessive nor immodest, for their chiefest exceptions were against her wearing of some whalebone in the bodice and sleeves of her gown, corked shoes, and other such like things as the citizens of her rank then used to wear. And although, for offence sake, she and he were willing to reform the fashion of them so far as might be without spoiling the garments, yet it would not content them except they came full up to their size."

Human nature is the same every where. How easy is it to see in the account of this transaction, the origin of the complaint. Poor Mrs. Johnson was accused, we fancy, not so much because her apparel was excessive, or immodest, as because nobody else could obtain such. It must have been a great convenience to the Puritan matrons, when they found that they could not dress up to the mode of the day, to administer church discipline to those who did, on the charge of pride in apparel. Johnson, as has been seen, took the part of his wife; it was not merely a quarrel between two members of the church, for he was the minister, and his influence appears to have prevailed; for the church eventually excommunicated his brother and father, for their "unreasonable and endless opposition, and such things as did accompany the same;"—a convenient way of putting an end to discussion. Johnson was probably a man of independent views, and a strong mind; so we may infer, at least, from his early history; he had been a preacher of the established church, to the English, at Middleburg, in Zealand, and, in his zeal against Puritanism, had discovered that Barrow and Greenwood's *Refutation of Gifford** was in press at Amsterdam, had informed the English ambas-

* "A plain refutation of M. Gifford's book, entitled 'A short treatise against the Donatists of England,' wherein is discovered the forgery of the whole ministry, the confusion, false worship, and antichristian disorder of these parish assemblies, called the Church of England. Here also is prefixed a sum of the causes of our separation, and of our purposes in practice."

sador, and had been directed by him to intercept them at the press, and see them burnt. This charge he performed with great skill, let the printers go on till the whole edition was finished, and then surprised the whole, “not suffering any to escape.” He then, by the magistrate’s permission, caused them to be burnt, watching the operation himself. Here, however, he was not so accurate as he had been, but permitted himself to suffer two to escape, one copy for himself, that he might see their errors, and another for a friend. He never did see their errors. The book affected him so much, that he immediately went to London and saw the authors in prison, a little while before their execution, and was there so confirmed in the truth, as they held it, that he left his situation at Middleburg, and joined the Puritan society at London, which, as we have seen, subsequently migrated to Amsterdam. When there, he caused these volumes to be reprinted, at his own charge. So remarkable an instance of acknowledgment of error, is but seldom found, even in the history of those days of enthusiasm.

The reader must not, however, from what we have said, form so mistaken an idea of our Leyden friends, as to imagine that they spent all their time in such common-place, hum-drum employments, as should merely result in giving them bread. Although they do not appear to have amused themselves as their brethren at Amsterdam did, by quarrelling with each other, yet they had many pleasures, which we do not think of when we read of them, as dying silks, or weaving linen, or printing books. How they must have thronged to hear their pastor, John Robinson, dispute with Episcopius, on Arminianism! There was at this time in the University at Leyden, as in other parts of Europe, a great deal of inquiry into this knotty matter of theology. And as every body else was divided, so were the two professors of divinity there; Polyander opposing it as a heresy, while Episcopius (Simon Bisschop) upheld it. Robinson attended all their lectures, weighed both sides carefully, grounded himself in his opposition to the Arminians, so that “he began to be terrible to them,” and finally, at the earnest intercession of Polyander, who perhaps began to find himself worsted in the discussion, being told “that such was the ability and nimbleness of the adversary, that the truth would suffer, if he did not help them,” he consented, after the fashion of the day, to meet Bisschop in a public disputation, where, says Bradford, “the Lord did so help him to defend the truth, and foil his adversary, as he put him to an apparent nonplus in this great and public assembly.” Without direct historical information, we can easily conceive with what alacrity the Puritans left their workshops and homes, to hear their pastor contest with the learned Dutch professor, the pupil of Arminius him-

self, in the very head quarters of Arminianism ; how regardless of time and convenience they were in their exertions to get the best places for hearing and seeing ; with what impatience they listened to the opening harangue of Episcopius, entirely unintelligible to them, clothed as it was in Latin ; how gladly and enthusiastically they listened to Robinson's reply, although equally unintelligible, watching all the while Elder Brewster, whose knowledge of the dead languages would enable him to give them indication of the proper places for applause, and, when his signal came, how eagerly they improved the opportunity ; how they ridiculed among themselves the reply of the Arminian, and, when at Master Robinson's well-timed question, he was put to his apparent nonplus, how vociferously they must have rejoiced, astonishing the walls of Leyden, with the hearty English cheer, the only one, perhaps, ever heard there. These must have been great days with them. The ability to maintain a contest with Episcopius, the very fact that his reputation authorized him to attempt it, speaks much for Robinson. Episcopius was and is considered the great chief of the Arminian church ; his writings are esteemed of more importance on this subject, than those of Arminius himself, and he was then known and respected throughout Europe. Grotius was his intimate friend. We must remember that the only account of these disputes comes from Robinson's friends, who heard with prejudiced ears ; that if the lion had been sculptor, we might have had a different statue ; that Episcopius was one of the most learned men of his day ; and that he had a cause perhaps quite as good as that of his opponent.

Occasionally, too, a message would be received from Amsterdam, giving an account of some quarrel in the church there, and the ordinary quiet of the little brotherhood would be broken up by the necessity of despatching Mr. Robinson and two or three others, as peacemakers. There is mention made in the documents before us, of two or three such occasions as this ; the quarrel with Ainsworth, which we have mentioned, is one of them. To the credit of Robinson and his friends, it must be stated, that their intercessions were always successful, and that they restored harmony in the church, which indeed continued to exist in Holland more than a hundred years.

Such was the life of the Pilgrims in Holland, not so pleasant to them, but that they tired of it. Bradford thinks it necessary to excuse them for this, by urging the difficulty of obtaining a livelihood in Holland, so great, that some preferred prisons in England to liberty in Holland ; that the community could not adhere long under such afflictions ; that their children were worn down by the labors imposed upon them, and that many of them left the brotherhood as soon as they were able ; and that elsewhere they might lay a good

foundation for propagating the gospel. They desired also to retain the name and language of Englishmen, and live under English protection, to give their children such an education as they had had themselves; and they shuddered at the degradation of the Sabbath in Holland, a matter in which they found their example in no degree improved their Dutch neighbors. The truce between Spain and the Low Countries was about expiring, and they wished to avoid the perils of war. Their thoughts had turned on America; some of them wished to settle in Guiana, but the majority preferred some part of Virginia, a name then given to the greater part of the now United States; and two deputies, Cushman and Carter, were sent to treat with the Virginia company, who had the patent for the southern half of this territory, extending about as far north as the mouth of the Hudson. On arriving in England, they made interest with Sir Edwin Sandys, a gentleman interested in religious affairs, and he applied to Sir Robert Staunton, the Secretary of State, to mention the matter to the king, that they might obtain a grant of liberty in religion from him. The matter was accordingly proposed to James as a measure which would advance his dominions, and enlarge the spread of the Gospel. He asked in reply, whence would be the profits of the enterprise; and having been told that they arose from fishing, "So God have my soul," he said, "'t is an honest trade, 't was the Apostles' own calling." This witticism seemed favorable, but kings may venture jokes where they will not give patents, and James, after telling Staunton that the Pilgrims must apply to the archbishops of Canterbury and London, showed his love to their sect, by issuing, a few months after, a declaration, in which he required the bishop of Lancashire to constrain all the Puritans within his diocese to conform, or to leave the country. The Pilgrims, however, were not so little men of the world, that they could not hear one part of the king's answer, and forget the other. They were told that James would not probably check them, though he might not encourage their departure openly. They accordingly returned to Holland and reported progress. This unsatisfactory state of things made some distraction, many fearing that after they were well settled, they would be broken up again. On the other hand, however, it seemed evident, that if James wished to injure them, he would do it, "though," as Bradford says, "they had a seal as broad as the house floor." Messengers were accordingly sent to negotiate a patent with the Virginia company, with which they sailed, though they never used it, since, as is known, they landed to the north of the limits of that company's grant. This patent was granted in the name of Mr. John Wincob, steward of the Countess of Lincoln, it being thought best not to attract attention by introducing the names of the Puritans. Wincob

intended to go with them, a purpose, however, which he never fulfilled. The family of the Countess of Lincoln seem to have had a more intimate connexion with the New-England settlements, than any other noble house in England. Frances, daughter of the Countess, married the son of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, who so actively attempted to settle the country. Susan and Arbella, two other daughters, married John Humphrey and Isaac Johnson, and came out with their husbands to New-England.

In order to obtain the funds requisite for a settlement, the Puritans made an agreement with some English merchants, by which the parties entered into a joint-stock and partnership for seven years, the shares being of £10 each, every person over sixteen years old migrating, to be considered as holding one share by that act, children between ten and sixteen valued at half a share, and to receive accordingly in the division. All profits made by any individual during the seven years, were to be paid into the common stock. At the end of the seven years, all the capital and profits were to be equally divided among the adventurers; all persons in the colony to have meat, drink, apparel, and all provisions, from the common stock of the colony.

The Pilgrims were desirous of having two further conditions—that the homesteads of the planters should not be divided at the end of the seven years, and that they should have two days in the week for themselves; this, however, was refused. The contract never proved an advantageous one, there was much trouble in making up accounts with the capitalists, while the planters were much the greatest sufferers.

These preparations having been made, and shipping taken in England, that part of the Leyden Puritans, who intended to go, made all their arrangements, and had a day for solemn humiliation, Mr. Robinson preaching from Ezra viii. 21. "And there, at the river, by Ahava, I proclaimed a fast, that we might humble ourselves before our God and seek of him a right way for us, and for our children, and for all our substance;" on which text he spent a good part of the day. It had been arranged that only the younger of the body should go in the first vessel, to prepare for the others; and, as the larger part remained, Mr. Robinson remained with them, Brewster going out with the emigrants. They then left Leyden, their home for twelve years, and going to Delft-Haven, took ship for England.

Here we take leave of the Pilgrim forefathers. Their companions at Leyden mostly followed them in the course of a few years, and the church then existed but a short time longer. It would be easy, perhaps, to support a theory which should show that many of the characteristic traits of the after inhabitants of the old colony, were derived from this sojourn in Holland, such as their habits of busi-

ness, their enterprise, their zeal for navigation. It is easy to found a theory to show any thing. We shall not take the pains here.

We had intended before closing to say something on the value of such contemporary documents as Mr. Young affords us, but we have left ourselves but little space. After all that we can say of the prejudices and short-sightedness which obscure such documents, of the difficulty of feeling and understanding the sentiments of their authors, there is a life-likeness, an earnestness in them, that we seldom find in other history. The connoisseur who pronounced Mark Angelo's equestrian statue a monster of blemishes, was obliged to own that it had the charm of life, while his own faultless work was dead. The volume of *Chronicles* which Mr. Young has published, is full of quaintness, blemishes and deficiencies, but full of life, too ; it would be very easy to mould the mass down into a comely, graceful, and proper shape, but it would be sure to grow cold under the hammer. Nor can their blemishes have any injurious result, when the tracts are read in the form in which they lie before us ; they are carefully edited, the notes displaying the utmost patience and erudition, as well as a full understanding of our early history.

ARTICLE XI.

MASSACHUSETTS RAILROADS, NO. III.

In our last volume, [Mon. Chron. Vol. I., pp. 260—265,] we gave some description of the Western railroad, as far as it was then completed. The work has since that time made a rapid advance. The viaduct across the Connecticut river at Springfield, by which the western section is united with the eastern, is completed, having been opened for the passage of the regular trains on the 3d of July inst. This viaduct is 1300 feet in length, and is built upon six piers and two abutments of granite, laid in hydraulic cement, 40 feet in height, and of great strength, deemed sufficient to resist the force of the ice and of the current in the greatest freshets. The superstructure is of wooden truss-work, strengthened by iron rods, or bolts. It was framed upon a beautiful model, furnished by the architect, Mr. William Howe, on a plan which combines great simplicity with such a disposition of the materials, as to give the adequate strength, without superfluous weight,

The eastern section of this railroad, which was opened on the 1st

of October, 1839, extending from its point of junction with the Boston and Worcester railroad in Worcester, to the Connecticut river, is $54\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length. The western section, extending from the Connecticut river to the border of the State of New York, which is $62\frac{3}{5}$ miles in length, is already opened, for about 40 miles, and it is anticipated that it will be completed before the end of the present year. The two sections, together with the Boston and Worcester road, which is $44\frac{5}{8}$ miles, make a distance of $161\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Boston to the western boundary of the state, and the further addition of the Albany and West-Stockbridge railroad, $38\frac{1}{6}$ miles in length, will make the distance from Boston to Albany, within a small fraction of 200 miles. The cost of this whole line of railroad, belonging to three independent companies, will exceed nine millions of dollars. The expenditures on the Boston and Worcester road, including the depot buildings in Boston, and 20 miles of the second track, extending from Needham to Westborough, which will be completed the present season, will amount to \$2,200,000. The further addition of expenditure which will be necessary to complete the second track, in the substantial manner in which it is begun, will increase the cost of this road to \$2,500,000.

The greatest inclination from a level of the Boston and Worcester road, is 30 feet in a mile. The whole amount of the several ascents in passing from the depot in Boston to the termination of the road in Worcester, is 590 feet, and the whole change of level in the descending planes, nine in number, is 123 feet. The aggregate of ascents and descents, is 713 feet.* The elevation of the Worcester depot is 467 feet above that in Boston, or about $470\frac{1}{2}$ above the level of high spring tides.

The elevation of the Boston and Worcester road, at the point where the Western road unites with it, is $463\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the Boston depot. In proceeding along the Western railroad, there is a further ascent of 430 feet in a space of 13 miles, to the summit in Charlton, where the elevation is $893\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the level of the depot in Boston. From that point to the Connecticut river, there is a descent of 836 feet, the level of the viaduct being $57\frac{1}{2}$ feet above that of the Boston depot, and $21\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the level of low water, in the river, which last level is $39\frac{1}{2}$ feet above high tide water. The ascent on the western division, in a distance of about 40 miles from Connecticut river to the summit in Washington, is 1392 feet, which point is $1449\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the level of the Boston depot. Between

* At page 194, Mon. Chron., Vol. I., there is a typographical error, of 611.1, for 711.1. There are some variations in the statements of the levels, in consequence of changes which have been made in raising some of the planes to improve the drainage.

the summit and the line of the State of New York, are four more ascending planes, amounting in the whole elevation to 135 feet, and a large number of descending planes, amounting in all to 676 feet, and the height of the termination at the State line, is 808½ feet above the commencement of the line in Boston. There are 53 planes in this section, the whole length of which is 54½ miles. Of the sections, 5 are level, 15 have various inclinations of 10 feet in a mile, or under, 11 from 10 to 20 feet, 6 from 20 to 30, 8 from 30 to 40, 6 from 44 to 50, 1 of 51½, and 1 of 60 feet. There are 20 planes ascending west, and 26 descending.

The cost of the eastern section of the Western railroad, extending from Worcester to the Connecticut river, as shown by the accounts to the 1st of December last, amounted to \$2,016,969. The items of this account are thus exhibited in the report of the Directors to the Legislature :

<i>Graduation</i> , including foundations for road and for superstructure, - - -	\$901,545 56
<i>Masonry</i> , including foundations, - - -	200,881 60
<i>Bridges</i> , " covering, painting, &c.,	49,824 19
	————— \$1,152,251 35
<i>Superstructure</i> , main track, 54.57 ms.	
Turn-out and Depot do. 1.93	— 56.50 ms.
viz : Iron rails delivered at Springfield and Worcester, - - - -	317,809 93
Sills, sleepers, and transportation of same to and upon the road, 62,111 18	
Timber lands bought for do., 2,475 14	— 64,586 32
Splicing plates delivered at Springfield and Worcester, - - - -	15,834 02
Spikes, - - - -	17,627 00
Laying tracks and turn-outs and transpor- tation (upon the line) of iron, spikes and plates, - - - -	57,507 31
Mile-stones, signs, and fence to protect from snow, - - - -	2,398 51
	————— 475,763 09
<i>Depot buildings</i> , including repair shop, and machinery at Springfield, aqueducts, furniture for station houses and all fix- tures, - - - -	73,500 71
<i>Engineer department</i> , including instru- ments, surveys, superintending, &c., for 4 years to January 1, 1840, - - -	64,518 93
<i>Engines and Cars</i> , viz : 8 engines, 7 eight-	

wheeled and 6 four-wheeled, first class		
Passenger, 2 second class do., 3 baggage, 70 freight, 10 dirt, and 4 hand Cars,		\$117,804 18
<i>Depot Lands</i> , for 11 stations, about 20 acres,	\$5,543 43	
<i>Land Damages</i> and fencing, including lands for changes of highways, expenses of Commissioners and Referees, &c.,	89,023 11	
<i>Miscellaneous Expenses</i> , including salaries, printing, stationery, clerk hire, office rents, postages, collecting assessments, expenses of Directors, &c., to January 1, 1840,	25,251 53	
<i>Interest to January 1, 1840,</i>	13,313 57	<hr/> 133,131 64
		\$2,016,969 90

The western section of this railroad has been built in face of as formidable obstacles as any which have been successfully encountered by any work of the kind, yet constructed. It passes over the range of the Green Mountains, which traverses the State from north to south, dividing the waters of Connecticut river from those which fall into the Hudson and the Housatonic. The summit of the ridge where it is crossed by the railroad in the town of Washington, is 1440 feet above the level of low water in Connecticut river, the grade of the road being there reduced by excavation about 28 feet. The excavation on part of the ascending slope is much greater, a large part of it through ledges of rock. The estimated amount of excavation on this section of the road, is 3,742,697 cubic yards, of which 3,260,715 yards are of earth, 395,808 yards of ledge rock, and 86,374 of loose rock.

The following is the revised estimate of the cost of the work of this section, made by the engineers and agents, in January last :

1. By the Engineers.

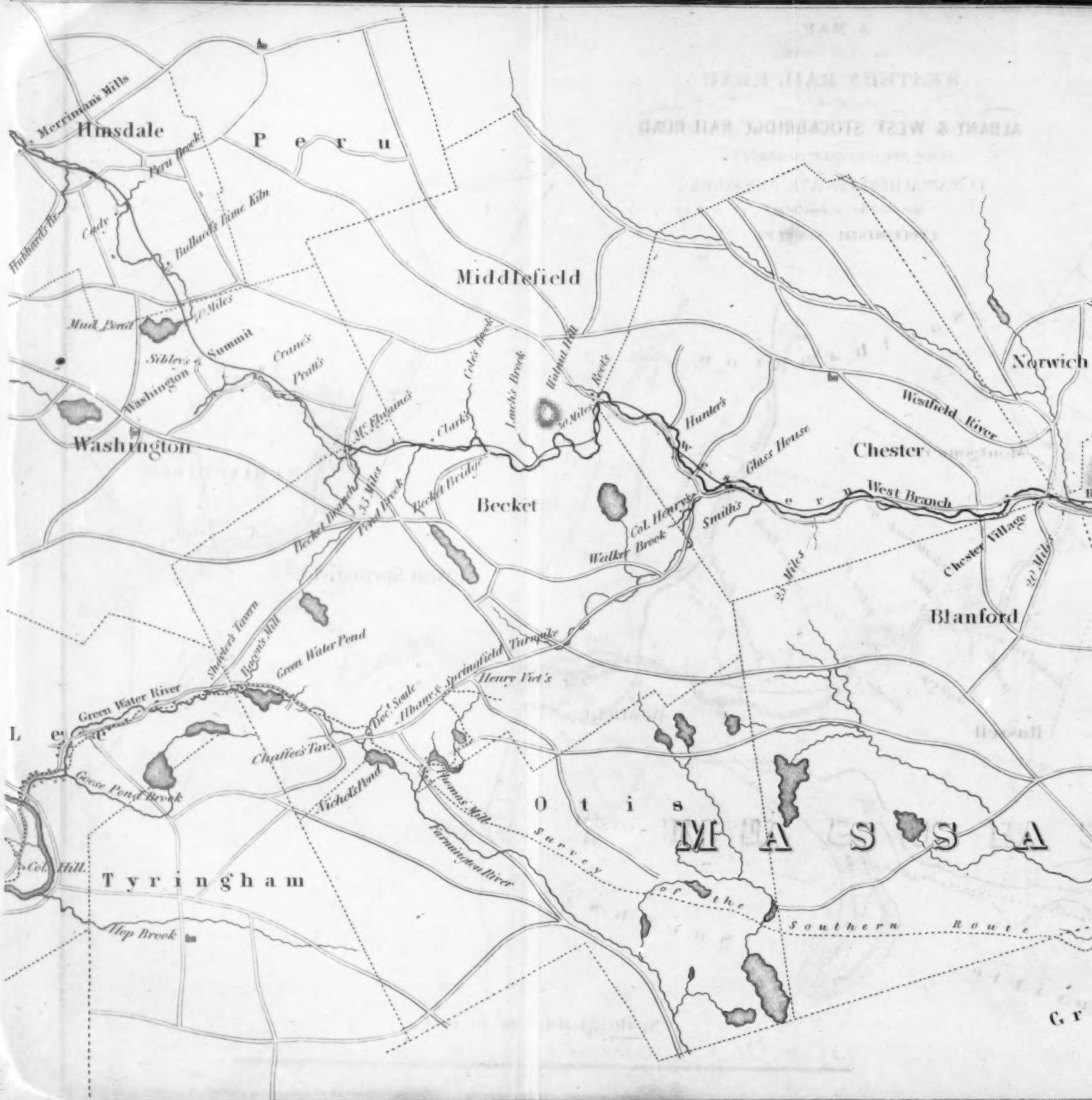
<i>Graduation</i> , including formation of road-bed and foundations for superstructure,	\$1,242,853 81
<i>Masonry</i> , including foundations and exclusive of masonry on Connecticut River Bridge,	438,419 82
<i>Bridges</i> , including covering and painting, and masonry of Connecticut River Bridge,	163,847 00
	<hr/> \$1,845,120 63

<i>Superstructure, viz:</i> Iron rails delivered at Springfield and West Stockbridge,	\$358,763	42
Sills and sleepers, and transportation of same to and upon the road,	57,940	26
Splicing rail plates distributed on the road,	17,850	00
Spikes delivered at Springfield and West Stockbridge,	17,254	44
Turn-out castings,	4,080	00
Laying track, turn-outs and transportation on line, of rails and spikes,	64,424	12
Signs, "Look out," &c., and mile stones,	2,125	00
		—————
		\$522,437
		24
<i>Depot buildings, including aqueducts and furniture,</i>		49,750
<i>Engineer Department, including instruments, surveys, superintendence, &c., from June, 1836, to Jan. 1, 1842,</i>		103,076
		—————
		2,520,383
		87

2. Addition estimated by Agent.

<i>Depot Lands at 10 stations,</i>	5,041	84
<i>Land Damages and fencing 62.6 miles,</i>	84,417	20
<i>Miscellaneous Expenses, from Jan. 1836, to July 1, 1842,</i>	42,082	84
		—————
		131,541
		88
<i>Interest on moneys borrowed and to be borrowed to May 1, 1842,</i>	196,587	10
<i>Engines and Cars,</i>	332,195	82
<i>Amount estimated by Engineers for repairing damages by the late freshet, and for raising road-bed and other securities against similar freshets,</i>		
		37,348
		11
<i>Total estimate, west of Conn. River, January, 1841,</i>		
		\$3,218,056
		78

The route of this section of the railroad is somewhat circuitous, yet when it is considered what a height of land is passed by a gradual inclination, admitting of the action of ordinary locomotive power, it will be perceived that the requisite elevation is chiefly gained by the increase of distance. The distance in a right line from the viaduct on Connecticut river to the State line, passing over one of the most mountainous parts of the State, is a fraction short of 45 miles. The length of railroad being 62.6, the increase of distance is just 40 per cent. A diligent and thorough investigation of the interven-



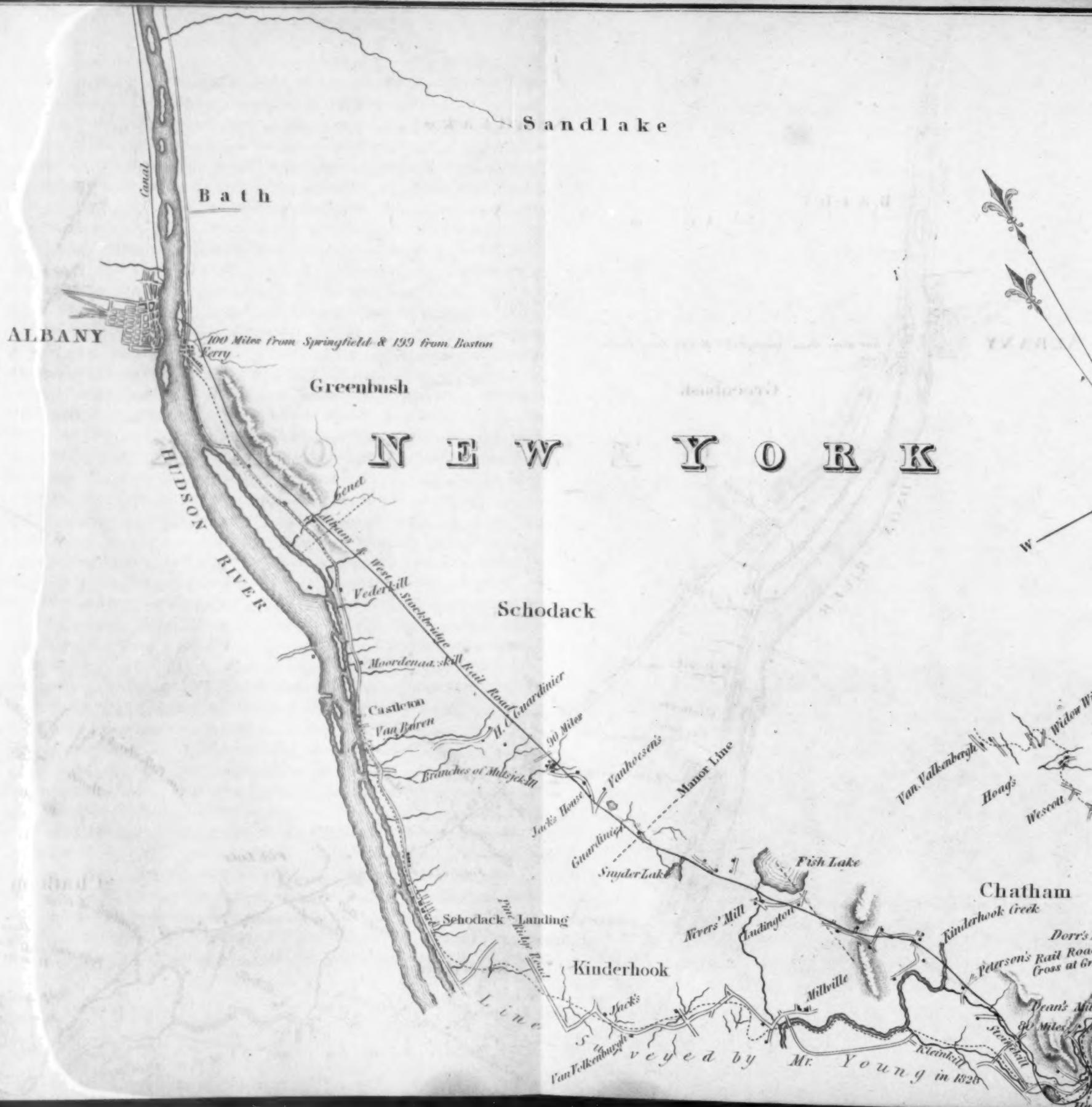
X
A MAP
OF PART OF THE
WESTERN RAIL ROAD
and of the
ALBANY & WEST STOCKBRIDGE RAIL-ROAD
FROM SPRINGFIELD TO ALBANY
IN MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK.

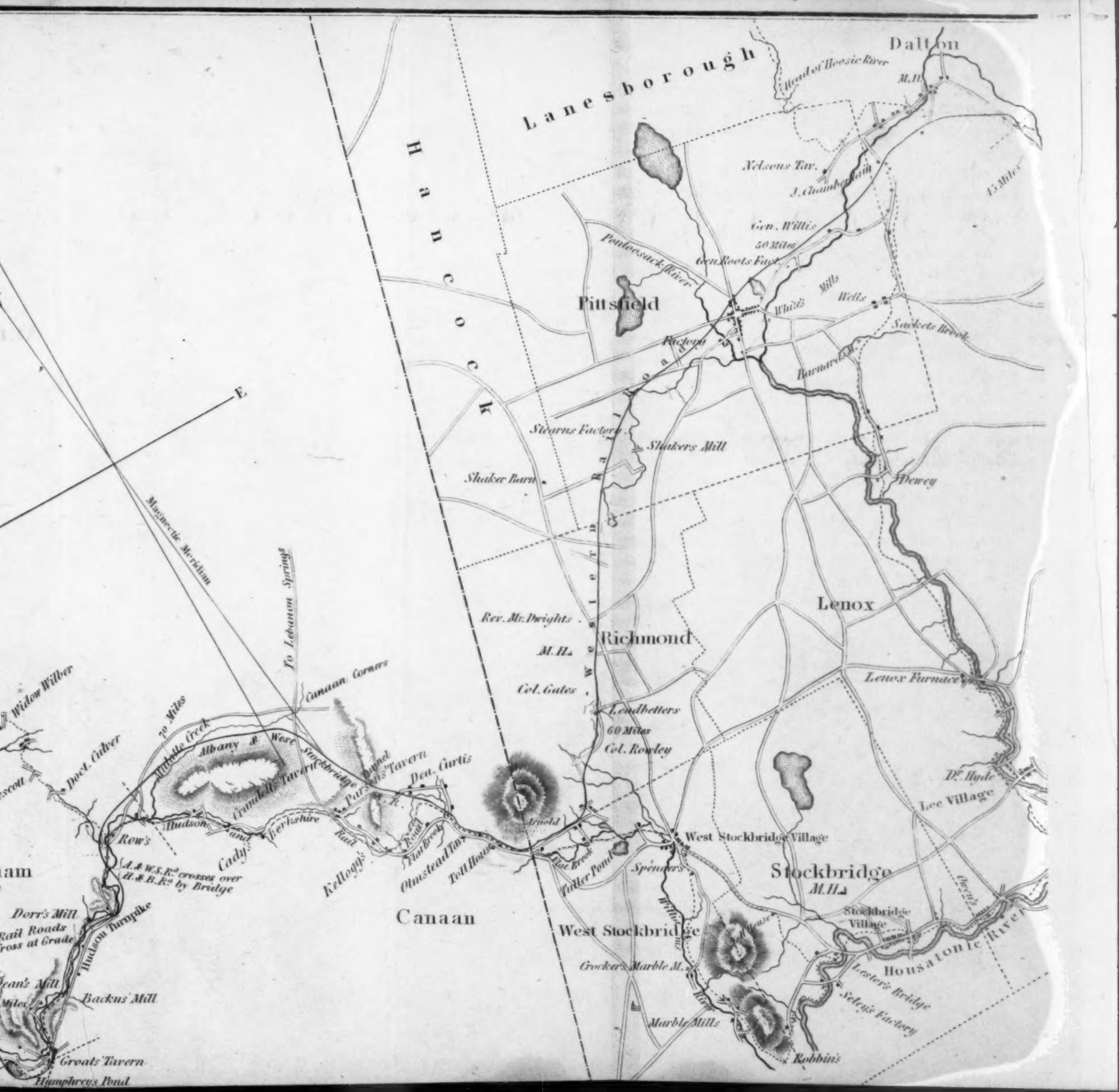
With the Routes of some of the
EXPERIMENTAL SURVEYS.



Scale 2½ Miles to an Inch









ing country was made, in the hope of being able to shorten this distance. If it had been practicable to descend from the border line of New York, through West Stockbridge and Stockbridge into the valley of the Housatonic, and to find a passage thence in a nearly direct course, through Becket, Otis, and Blandford, to the valley of the Little river, in Westfield, there would have been a material saving in the distance. But the obstacles were found to be insurmountable, except by so much winding through the mountainous ascents on each side of the summit, as greatly to protract the route. Indeed, the only practicable route, by winding through the towns of Southwick, Granville, Russell, a corner of Tolland, Blandford, Otis, Becket, and Lee, was lengthened to a distance nearly equal to that of the northern route, which, although apparently more circuitous, is more free from short and difficult curvatures. On the Stockbridge route, also, the amount of ascent and descent is much greater, from the greater elevation of the mountain ridge, at the lowest point which could be selected for this route, and also from the greater depth of the Housatonic valley at Stockbridge than at Pittsfield. The following comparative view of the results afforded by the surveys and estimates on the two routes, is presented by the engineers. Some improvements were subsequently made in the northern route.

	S. Route.	N. Route.	Diff'ence.
Distance from Ct. River to N. York line,	Ms. 62,438	63,104	0.666
Elevation of principal summit,	Ft. 1440	1419	51.0
Elevation of grade at do.,	Ft. 1440	1392	48.0
Number of summits,	5	4	1
Total amt. of ascending grades from east,	Ft. 1655	1542	113.0
Equated distance,	Ms. 149,543	144,263	5,280
Total deflection in degrees,	4831.5	4441.5	390.
Length of curved line,	Ms. 34,041	34,414	0.373
Length of straight line,	Ms. 28,397	28,690	0.293
Maximum grade,	Feet 80	82.18	2.18
Grades from 0 to 30 feet per mile,	" 31,490	33,483	1.993
" " 30 to 40 "	" 3,375	5,113	1.738
" " 40 to 50 "	" 1,061	6,382	5.321
" " 50 to 60 "	" 5,747	2,481	3.266
" " 60 to 70 "	" 4,090	0	4,090
" " 70 to 80 "	" 16,665	7,748	8,917
" " 80 to 82 "	" 0	7,897	7,897
Total amount of grades above 71.57 ft.,	Ms. 16,665	8,902	7.763
Cost of grading and bridging per mile,	\$17,965.65	18,138.90	173.25
Total cost of grading and bridging,	1,120,823.14	1,144,637.16	23,814.02
Add 10 per cent. to above cost of grading and bridging per mile,	19,762.21	19,952.79	190.50
Total cost of grading and bridging,	1,232,905.45	1,259,100.87	26,195.42

RESULTS OF THE COMPARISONS.

"From these comparisons it results, that the actual distance, by the south route, is $\frac{2}{3}$ of a mile less than by the north—that the principal summit is 51 feet higher upon the south route than upon the north, and that the additional elevation of all the summits, upon the south line, amounts to 113 feet more than upon the north, and that the equated distance corresponding thereto, is 5.28 miles, against the south line—that the amount of curved line, by the north route, exceeds that by the south, by $\frac{1}{3}$ of a mile, but that the whole deflection, which is the full measure of all the curvature, is 390 deg., or 30 deg. more than an entire circle, greater upon the south route, than upon the north—of grade *less* than 40 feet, the south route has 34.86 miles; and the north route 38.60 miles, or 3.73 miles in favor of the north route; from 40 to 82 feet the south has 27.56 miles, the north do. 24.50, difference in favor of the north route, 3.06 miles; above 71.57, the south route has 16.66, and the north route 8.905; difference in favor of the north route, 7.63."

It is apparent from this comparison, that in attempting to pursue a more direct general course, no material gain would be made in the actual length of the road, while the other features of the route would be decidedly less favorable. The northern route pursues almost a direct course to Pittsfield, the largest town of the county of Berkshire, where, as well as at West Stockbridge, a number of converging roads will afford the means of communication with the more remote parts of the county.

The route which is selected, coincides very nearly with that which was traced and surveyed by Mr. James F. Baldwin, in 1828, under the direction of the Directors of Internal Improvement. On leaving Connecticut river, it passes through the towns of West Springfield and Westfield, along the north bank of the Westfield river, but avoiding the sinuosities of this rapid stream. It accordingly does not pass through the thickly settled part of the town of Westfield, which is situated on the south side of the river. It was unfortunate that the population of this thriving town could not be accommodated by a nearer approach of the railroad to it, but this does not seem to have been practicable, but at the expense of two costly viaducts across the river, and the adoption of a less favorable line of road. For the accommodation of the inhabitants of Westfield, a depot station is established at the nearest point of approach to the town, near the bridge, on the Northampton road, and near where the river is crossed by the aqueduct of the Hampshire and Hampden canal.

From the border of the town of Westfield, the route proceeds along the valley of the Westfield river, chiefly on the left bank, to Chester village. The river here divides: and the western branch takes the euphonious name of Pontoosuc. The eastern branch contains the accumulated waters of a number of mountain streams, from Chesterfield, Worthington, Plainfield, and other towns in the western part of Hampshire County, and several roads from those towns, passing through the valleys of these streams, converge at Chester village, and render this a central point of access to the railroad, for the population of a considerable district of country.

From Chester village, the railroad continues along the valley of the Pontoosuc, through the town of Chester, along the border of Middlefield and Becket, and thence to the source of the river, and the summit of the mountain ridge, in Washington. The ascent from Connecticut river to a point about 14 miles east of the summit, does not exceed 33 feet in a mile. At this point it increases to a grade of 41 feet in a mile, for a distance of near two miles, and thence in a distance of 11 miles terminating about a mile from the summit, it rises 820 feet, by a nearly uniform grade, averaging $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet in a mile, and increasing in some parts to very near 80 feet in a mile. Although the general course of the river is nearly in the same direction, through its whole length, along a narrow, steep and rocky defile, it is full of short and abrupt windings, which necessarily break the line of the railroad into a succession of irregular curves. These windings in the channel of the river are much more abrupt than would be admissible for the railroad track. An immense labor has therefore been necessary, for reducing the excessive curvature, as well as equalizing the grade of ascent, by excavations in the rocky projections, by bank walls of heavy masonry, and by frequently crossing the stream, often in an oblique direction, on bridges elevated sometimes 60 or 70 feet above the water. In the space of 13 miles, the railroad crosses the river 21 times. There are 3 bridges supported by stone arches of 60 feet span, and 5 of 45 feet each, some of which are 50, 60, and 70 feet above the water. From the extent of these works, and of the excavation at the summit, it is easy to account for the aggregate of 395,000 cubic yards of rock excavation, and the 144,000 perches of masonry.

The summit ridge is passed by a cut of 2,600 feet in length, part of which is 52 feet in depth. The amount of rock in this excavation, is computed to be 57,000 cubic yards, much of which is of the hardest kind. For a distance of 5 or 6 miles northwest of the summit, the descent is gradual, after which, there is a descent for more than five miles in Hinsdale and Dalton, at a grade of nearly 80 feet in a mile. On the residue of the line, through Pittsfield and Rich-

mond, to the border of the State, at West Stockbridge, the grades are comparatively moderate, the highest being 55, 45, and 41 feet in a mile.

The Western railroad terminates on the boundary line of the State, at a point where there are no inhabitants, and where it is not desirable there should be any interruption in the line of travel. Nothing but the limit of the jurisdiction of the State, by which the charter of the road was granted, would have designated this spot as its point of termination. The main object for which the enterprise was undertaken, would have remained unaccomplished, if the road had terminated here, that object being to open a line of communication from Boston to Albany. Some useful purpose would have been served, by uniting the Western road with the Hudson and Berkshire railroad, which is already constructed, terminating at the State line; but a more important object was in view, that of extending a line of railroad direct to Albany, the capital of the State of New York, and a more convenient point of contact with the great channels of trade. A company was formed some years since, and a charter was granted by the legislature of New York, for constructing a railroad, which should serve as an extension of the Western railroad of Massachusetts, to the city of Albany. Unsuccessful attempts were made for several successive years, to raise the necessary capital for the accomplishment of this work. The municipal government of the city of Albany, at the request of its citizens, and under a special authority obtained from the legislature, agreed to subscribe to the stock of the railroad, to the amount of \$650,000, which amount was subsequently increased to \$1,000,000, on condition of paying the subscription in stock, bearing an annual interest of 5 per cent., and redeemable in 30 years. An agreement was subsequently entered into between the Albany and West-Stockbridge railroad company, together with the government of the city of Albany, and the Massachusetts Western Railroad corporation, by which the latter agree to construct the whole road, from the State line to Albany, at their own cost, taking, however, in aid thereof, the \$1,000,000 of stock subscribed by the city, and undertaking to pay the interest and principal thereof, as the same shall fall due—the road to be leased by the former corporation to the latter, for the term of 50 years, the period of the charter, and the latter on constructing the road, to open the same for public use, and to receive the whole income, in consideration of paying the whole cost of construction, and the interest and principal of the stock, which is to be in the nature of a loan in aid of the undertaking.

On making a thorough survey of the route by the engineers of the Western railroad company, it was found that the cost of the work, if completed in a thorough and substantial manner, would be much

greater than it had been previously computed. The route is in two parts. The first from the State line to Groat's, a distance of a little more than 15 miles, which pursues nearly the course of the Hudson and Berkshire railroad. It was originally in contemplation to adopt the same track in use for that road, by making some improvement of the grades, and laying down a more substantial rail than that now in use on that road. But it has been since decided to adopt an independent track, pursuing, however, nearly the same course. This part of the road, measuring 15.115 miles in length, it is computed will cost \$214,249 for the grading and masonry, \$149,860 for the superstructure, \$97,727 for land, fencing, depot buildings, engineering, interest and miscellaneous expenses, making a total of \$461,836. The remaining distance from Groat's to Greenbush, opposite to the city of Albany, including a steam ferry, and a depot in Albany, is estimated to cost \$950,968. This part of the road is along the route which will be necessarily adopted by the New-York and Albany railroad, which is already begun at the New-York termination. The items of the estimate for this part of the route are, for the grading and masonry, $22\frac{3}{4}$ miles, \$431,850, superstructure, \$239,923, depot in Albany, and steam ferry, \$65,000, other depot lands and buildings, pier wharf, &c. \$65,823, land, damages, and fencing, \$73,627, engineering, interest, and miscellaneous, \$83,745. The estimate of the whole cost, from the Massachusetts line to the city of Albany, exclusive of any allowance for the *materiel* of the road, which is included in the estimate of cost of the Western railroad, is \$1,412,804.

The whole cost, therefore, of the Western railroad from Worcester to Albany, a distance of 155 miles, including the Albany and West-Stockbridge railroad, which is to be built by the proprietors of the Western railroad, for the purpose of extending their road to the city of Albany, instead of suffering it to terminate at the border of the State, under a lease for 50 years, by which the Western railroad corporation is to have the whole management, and to receive the whole profits of it in consideration of defraying the whole cost, is estimated to amount to \$6,647,829, viz. \$2,016,969 from Worcester to Springfield; \$3,218,056 from Springfield to West Stockbridge, and \$1,412,804 from West Stockbridge to Albany. If to this be added \$2,600,000 for the cost of the Boston and Worcester railroad, when completed with a double track—20 miles of the second track being now in progress of execution—the aggregate cost of 199 miles of railroad from Boston to Albany, including depot buildings, engines, and carriages, will amount to \$9,247,829. Of this amount, about \$8,000,000 are already expended.

Of this line of railroad, about 149 miles are now open—the first

track of the Boston and Worcester road having been opened on the 1st of July, 1835, and 7 miles of the second track in the spring of 1840—the Western road from Worcester to Springfield was opened Oct. 1, 1839—28 miles of the same road from Springfield to Chester, were opened July 4, 1841,—and about 20 miles of the same road, from the summit to the State line, are now just opened. The remaining portion of the Western road on the section east of the summit, it is anticipated will be completed in December next; and if the season should be favorable, it is hoped that the whole of the Albany and West-Stockbridge road will be completed by the end of the year. Thus this great line of improvement, which at its commencement was deemed by many a hopeless undertaking, is likely to be completed in a period of about eight years. It is already productive of incalculable benefits to the State, and those benefits, on the completion of the enterprise, are likely to be greatly extended.

On the completion of this railroad, an actual experiment will be necessary, to determine what length of time will be requisite, taking into consideration a due economy and the proper accommodation of travellers, to complete the journey between Boston and Albany. This will not be so much a question of what length of time would be necessary, to traverse the line safely with a locomotive and a train of carriages, as what period will be found best adapted to daily practice, affording time for stopping at all the stations where it shall be found expedient, for receiving and discharging passengers, as well as for taking in supplies of fuel and water. It has been found by experience, that a passenger train may run with ease and regularity between Boston and Springfield, stopping only at the necessary stations for taking fuel and water, in about four and a half hours. If the same period be allowed for the part of the line between Springfield and Albany, (and probably a little more should be allowed,) it will make a period of nine hours in running from Boston to Albany. This, therefore, may be considered about the minimum period, not in which it will be practicable to travel over the line, but which any one will recommend as the regular period of ordinary travelling. This would be about equal to the rate of mail travelling on the best English railroads. It is a rate which may probably be sustained with a considerable degree of regularity, yet it is not probable that it will be deemed expedient to adopt, for the present at least, so rapid a speed for the ordinary rate of travelling. The convenience of travellers, and the diminished liability to accidental detention, sufficient to disturb the regularity of the performance, will probably dictate the adoption of a more deliberate rate, occupying not less, probably, than five, or five and a half hours, between Boston and Springfield, and an equal space of time between Springfield and Albany; or from

ten to eleven hours in the journey between Boston and Albany. But this is a question which must be determined, as we have remarked, by experience, and it will naturally depend, in some degree, on the comparative number of way passengers, and of those travelling through the whole line.

Either of the rates of travelling above mentioned, will reduce the journey to about the ordinary duration of the steam passage between New York and Albany. But it cannot be expected that the journey will be performed at the same cost. Nature, in providing the broad and even expanse of the Hudson river, affording from New York to Albany one of the finest channels for inland navigation in the world,—a channel which is open free of cost to competitors in steam navigation,—and having at the same time interposed between Boston and Albany, ranges of almost impassable mountains, although a mode has been invented, and a track constructed by art and labor, for traversing those mountains, it would be unreasonable to expect that they should be traversed, not merely in the same space of time, but at the same cost. The passage is made on either route, only by the exertion of great physical power. That power is produced by the application of steam. But in one case the power is applied on the smooth and level surface of the river, which is provided free of cost, in the other, upon an artificial surface of iron, smooth indeed, but far from level, and provided at an immense expense, for which a remuneration must be obtained. A power is required on the latter route, in addition to that of producing locomotion on a level surface, sufficient to mount elevations of 900 and 1400 feet above the level of the sea, and of the rivers which cross the route ; and in addition to the expense of this motive power, a compensation is to be made for the use of the track by which these elevations are surmounted. It is obvious, therefore, that although by the use of the works which have been provided by art, and at so much cost, and by the use of the necessary degree of steam power to surmount the obstacles which no art could remove, and which are far from trivial, the railroad may be traversed in an equal space of time with the river, and with even greater speed, yet a higher rate of compensation must be exacted, as a remuneration for the passage. Yet the amount of this remuneration will be much less than the cost of any other mode of traversing the same space, and an amount which is insignificant, when compared with the saving of time and labor, in making the journey in this mode.

The completion of the Western railroad, and of the second track of the Boston and Worcester railroad, which will probably be accomplished in another year, will complete the system of Massachusetts railroads, as far as any plans are at present meditated, with the

exception of the railroad from Springfield to Hartford. This road is necessary to form an important connexion between the Western, and the New-Haven and Hartford railroads, and thereby to form a new and short line of communication between Boston and New York. A small portion of this route only falls within the State of Massachusetts. A charter authorizing the work, has been granted by the Legislatures of Massachusetts and Connecticut, the route has been fully surveyed, and a very eligible line of road has been designated. All that is necessary to authorize the immediate commencement of the work is, that a sufficient subscription should be made to the capital stock.

The laying down of the second track on the Boston and Worcester railroad, is now in progress, and will be extended to a length of 20 miles the present season. Some improvements are made in the mode of construction. To form a bed which shall be secured as far as possible from the action of frost, the earth, except where it consists of gravel, is removed from the track, to a depth of two or three feet, and of a width of eight feet, and this excavation is filled with coarse gravel. Upon this bed of gravel the cross-sleepers, which are of chestnut timber, and of larger size than those heretofore used, are laid, without any sub-sill, or longitudinal sleeper. The rail is of the inverted T pattern, weighing 60 lbs. to a yard, sixteen feet in length, and fastened at each end by a cast iron chair, which is closely fitted to the rail. The rail is further secured by means of a key, inserted perpendicularly in a hole drilled in the chair. It is raised by the chair two inches from the sleeper, so as to admit of a covering of gravel upon the sleeper, and also of a space between the gravel and the rail. There are six sleepers to each rail, those adjoining the ends of the rails being placed nearer together than the rest. At each of the sleepers, except those under the ends of the rails, the rail is supported by a cast-iron block, instead of a chair, about 6 inches in length, and of sufficient height, through the ends of which the spikes are driven, and the heads of the spikes, on each side of the rail, assist in holding it firm in its place. The sub-sill is dispensed with, because it is thought to be useless, and that by rendering the gravel above it less solid and more dry, it makes the road more dusty. To cover the sleepers with gravel makes them more firm, tends to preserve them, and diminishes the noise of the train in passing. In re-laying the old track, where it has been found necessary from the decay of the sleepers, an experiment has been made of laying down six sleepers instead of five, to each rail of 15 feet in length, with a favorable result, in increasing the firmness of the road, and its adaptation to heavy engines and loads. The rails of the first track weigh 40 lbs. to a yard, and are supported by chairs at each sleeper.

The following table exhibits the present extent, and the cost of the railroads of Massachusetts, with the produce of each during the year 1840, from the transportation of passengers, freight and other sources, the current expenses of the year, including the cost of working, as well as of repairs of road, engines and cars, and the dividends of profits paid to the stockholders.

	Length. Miles.	Cost.	Receipts.	Expenses.	Divi- dends
			Passengers.	†Total.	
Providence,	*41	\$1,782,000	\$134,651	\$202,601	\$131,109 7 p. c.
Worcester,	45	2,200,000	170,855	267,547	140,441 6 "
Lowell,	26	1,800,000	127,007	231,575	91,400 8 "
Eastern,	§38	2,186,990	164,370	199,134	117,447 6 "
Taunton Br.,	11	250,000	29,442	30,478	21,483 6 "
N. Bedford,	**20	35,900	23,250	26,437	13,026 3 "
Western,	††155	6,647,829	70,820	112,347	62,071
Norwich,	††59	1,777,471	78,809	116,517	52,503
Bos. & Port.,	20	523,091	55,061	§ 72,377	§ 41,431 5 1/2 "
Nashua,	14 1/2	368,703	11,446	40,304	52,532 7 1/2 "
Char'to'n Br.,	1 1/2	93,381		3,545	2,582
West-Stock.,	2 1/2	28,210			
Total,	433 1/2	\$18,053,575	\$566,401	\$1,313,922	\$726,026

Of the above, 433 1/2 miles of railroad, 84 1/2 miles are out of the limits of the State; viz., 39 1/2 miles of the Norwich and Worcester railroad in Connecticut, 7 miles of the Lowell and Nashua road in New Hamp-

* Exclusive of the Dedham branch, of 2 miles.

† This item includes, in addition to receipts from passengers and freight, the sum received for conveyance of the mail, rents, and all other sources of income.

‡ Exclusive of Millbury branch, of 3 miles.

§ Exclusive of 15 1/2 miles of railroad in New Hampshire, extending from the State line to Portsmouth, built by a separate company, and leased to the Eastern railroad of Massachusetts, for a term of 99 years. This road was opened to Newburyport, June 19, and to Portsmouth, Nov. 9, 1840, having been in operation during the first part of the year only to Ipswich, about half its length. The item of expenses includes the interest on the State loan, and the amount paid under the lease to the proprietors of the New Hampshire road.

|| Exclusive of \$23,188 paid to the Boston and Providence railroad corporation.

** This road was opened July 2, 1840.

†† Including the Albany and West-Stockbridge, which is built at the expense of the Western railroad corporation, under a lease for its whole term of duration. The item of cost includes the estimated cost of completion. A part only of the road is in operation.

‡‡ Of this length, 39 miles are in the State of Connecticut.

§§ These sums are exclusive of \$2,191 paid for tolls, to the Boston and Lowell railroad, but the sum in the column of expenses includes \$9,750, paid for rent of the Boston and Maine railroad in New Hampshire, which road is now opened to Newmarket, a distance of 22 miles from the line of Massachusetts, and 57 miles from Boston, and the receipts from this road are embraced in the columns of receipts. The sum of \$7,500 paid for interest on \$150,000 State scrip is not included in the column of expenses—that amount being included in the capital stock.

||| This road is leased to the Hudson and Berkshire railroad company, and no return is made of the rents.

shire, and 38 miles of the Albany and West Stockbridge road in New York, but all built by the funds of the companies here named, under the authorization of the Legislatures of those States, the amount of which is included in the third column in the table. From a comparison of these two columns, it appears that the average cost of these railroads, including stations, buildings, engines, carriages, and all expenses, is \$41,672 a mile. Several of the works in the table have hardly begun to receive an income. The three principal roads which have been in full operation through the last year, produced an aggregate income of \$701,723, which is equal to an average of \$6,265 a mile. This income will be considerably increased the present year.

In addition to this extent of railroads, diverging in different directions from the capital of Massachusetts, four of these lines of railway are extended by means of other railroads in the adjoining States, built by other companies, which are independent of those in Massachusetts. These additional railroads, not included in the foregoing table, which thus extend the line of travel and business from Boston, are, 1st, the Stonington railroad, running from Providence through Rhode Island, and part of Connecticut, to Stonington, a distance of 47 miles, in the most direct line of communication with New York, and separated from the Providence railroad only by a ferry; 2d, the Eastern railroad in New Hampshire, extending from the State line, $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Portsmouth, and the Portsmouth and Portland railroad, which will serve as a further extension of the Eastern railroad, an additional distance of 48 miles to Portland. This work is not completed, but is now in progress of rapid execution. 3d, The Boston and Maine railroad, extending from the Massachusetts line through Exeter to Dover, 32 miles, 22 of which, to Newmarket, are already opened; and 4th, the Nashua and Concord railroad, 34 miles in length, for the extension of the line of the Lowell and Nashua railroad to Concord in New Hampshire. These five railroads, of which the three last are yet incomplete, will make a further extension of the system of railroads, which centres in Boston, of $176\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and added to the length of railroad constructed and managed by companies established in Massachusetts, make an aggregate of $609\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and including two branches, $614\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

These railroads, of which 475 miles are already finished, and in daily use, are all built in a substantial manner, of a heavy edge or T rail, weighing from 40 to 60 lbs per yard, exclusive of the cast iron chairs. More than 30 miles are already laid with a double track, and in a short time, not only the whole of the Lowell, but the rest of the Worcester, will be furnished with a double track. The roads are all furnished with locomotive engines of excellent construc-

tion, built in England, at Lowell, in Boston, at Patterson, and at Philadelphia. They are in general under good regulations, are run with great caution and safety, as well as with great precision in the hours of departure, and regularity in the rates of running, and the hours of arrival. The rate of running is generally from 20 to 25 miles an hour, exclusive of stops, which are usually about two minutes at the ordinary stations, and five to ten minutes at the stations for taking fuel and water. The engine-men are generally skillful machinists, and men of prudence and established character. Consequently, few accidents have occurred, by which personal injury has been sustained by passengers, though several serious and fatal casualties have occurred to the engine-men.

Some important improvements have been made during the last year in the depot accommodations of the Boston and Worcester railroad in Boston. The passenger house is enlarged to a length of 290 feet, being 51 and 60 feet in width. There are two other buildings adjoining, for the storage of passenger cars. A large freight house is now building, in addition to the present freight buildings, which will be 465 feet in length, and 120 feet in width, under a single roof. A more particular description of the accommodations for business afforded by these works will require another article. They are designed to be on a scale of dimensions sufficient for the transaction of all the business to be done on this line of railways, which will embrace in immediate connexion, besides the Worcester, Western, and Albany and West-Stockbridge railroads, the Hartford and Springfield, the Hartford and New Haven, and the Norwich and Worcester, making in all, an extent of railway of 350 miles in length.

For the purpose of obtaining an accurate idea, of the degree of expedition and regularity of communication, by means of these railroads, it would be gratifying to be furnished with an authentic statement, for some given period, of the number of passenger trains which run regularly on the several routes, their periods of running, and a table of the duration of each trip. By such a statement, exhibiting in a tabular view the exact time of the performance of each successive trip, some correct notion could be formed, not only of the ordinary rate of travelling, but of the frequency of those casualties which sometimes inevitably cause delay. We have not at hand at present the materials for such a statement, to an extent which would fully answer the desired purpose, nor room for the materials at hand. The following table of the rate of running on one of the routes, for a period of two months, may be taken as a favorable sample of the performance on the principal railroads, both in point of speed and regularity. Similar statements from other roads would probably present similar results, some of them exhibiting a greater degree of speed, and others less, but few probably exceeding this in regularity.

This statement is taken from an authentic record, kept by the agents of the Boston and Worcester, and Norwich and Worcester railroads, showing the exact hours of arrival and departure of the passenger trains, which run daily, Sundays excepted, over those two roads, in connexion with the steamboat line between Norwich and New York. The length of the route from Boston to Norwich, is a fraction less than 104 miles, viz. from Boston to Worcester, 45 miles; from Worcester to Norwich, 59. The train stops once between Boston and Worcester, and twice between Worcester and Norwich, for taking fuel and water; and at Worcester, to shift the engine, and for the refreshment of the passengers. The figures in the table give the duration of the journey from the time of departure, to the time of arrival,—stops included. For the purpose of accomplishing the journey on the steamboat train with expedition, for the benefit of passengers passing through the line, this train makes fewer stops than the ordinary trains, on these two roads, by which a saving in time is made of about half an hour on each road. This is the chief difference in the rate of travelling between the steamboat train, and the other trains. The number of passengers conveyed is extremely variable, being usually less than a hundred, but sometimes 250.

Table of running of the steamboat train between Boston, Worcester, and Norwich, stops included, from May 25, to July 24, 1841.

	Boston to Worcester		Boston to Norwich.		Norwich to Worcester		Norwich to Boston.
	Worcester. to Norwich	h. m.			h. m.	h. m.	
May 25	1 55	2 25	4 20		May 25	2 20	2 0
	1 54	2 24	4 18		26	2 31	2 5
	1 50	2 30	4 20		27	2 35	2 20
	1 54	2 23	4 17		28	2 32	2 8
	1 50	2 25	4 15		29	2 27	1 48
	1 55	2 25	4 20		31	2 53	1 57
June 1	1 52	2 23	4 15		May 25	2 17	2 21
	1 54	2 17	4 11		2	2 34	1 44
	1 50	2 28	4 18		3	2 25	2 5
	1 50	2 24	4 14		4	9 47†	1 50
	1 51	2 24	4 15		5	2 35	2 5
	2 2	2 14	4 16		7	2 43	1 52
	1 55	2 30	4 25		8	2 45	2 5
	1 54	2 11	4 5		9	2 25	2 1
	2	2 15	4 15		10	3 7	1 58
	1 54	8 1*	9 55		11	2 14	1 46
	1 50	2 30	4 20		12	3 18	2 32
	2	2 35	4 35		14	2 45	2 45
	1 50	2 25	4 15		15	2 40	2 5
	1 55	2 8	4 3		16	2 33	1 48
	1 52	2 13	4 5		17	2 35	2 35
	1 55	2 17	4 12		18	2 30	1 53

* Engine shaft broken.

† Ran over cows.

	Boston to Worcester.	Worcester to Norwich	Boston to Norwich.		Norwich to Worcester.	Worcester to Boston.	Norwich to Boston.
	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.		h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
June 19	1 52	2 23	4 15	June 19	2 57	2 5	5 2
21	1 50	2 10	4	21	2 33	1 54	4 27
22	1 55	2 20	4 15	22	2 32	1 58	4 30
23	1 55	2 15	4 10	23	2 20	1 55	4 15
24	1 57	2 3	4	24	2 20	2 10	4 30
25	1 50	2 25	4 15	25	2 30	2	4 30
26	1 50	2 25	4 15	26	2 25	2 5	4 30
28	1 55	2 12	4 7	28	2 45	1 45	4 30
29	1 55	2 10	4 5	29	2 34	1 51	4 25
30	1 55	2 12	4 7	30	7 20*	2 5	9 25
July 1	1 53	2 24	4 17	July 1	3	2 15	5 15
2	1 52	2 58	4 40		2	2 40	2 5
3	2 10	2 35	4 45		3	2 58	2 15
5	1 55	2 47	4 42		5	3 10	2 15
6	2 05	2 40	4 45		6	2 46	2 19
7	1 54	2 39	4 26		7	2 37	1 56
8	1 57	2 35	4 22		8	2 41	2 1
9	1 58	2 24	4 22		9	2 37	2 5
10	1 55	2 27	4 22		10	2 52	2 8
12	1 58	2 39	4 37		12	2 35	1 58
13	2	2 35	4 35		13	2 36	2
14	1 54	2 25	4 19		14	2 35	1 51
15	1 52	2 18	4 10		15	3 10	2 10
16	1 54	2 26	4 20		16	2 45	2 4
17	1 46	2 20	4 6		17	2 30	2
19	2	2 17	4 17		19	2 35	1 55
20	1 55	2 25	4 20		20	2 45	2 50
21	1 58	2 18	4 16		21	2 48	1 52
22	1 55	2 25	4 20		22	2 38	2 7
23	1 55	2 27	4 22		23	3 35	2 10
24	1 55	2 25	4 20		24	2 43	2 15

* Engine thrown off the track.

It will be observed that the trips from Boston to Norwich are performed with much more regularity than those from Norwich to Boston. This is owing solely to the uncertainty of the hour of arrival of the steamboat at Norwich, and the consequent liability of the steamboat train from Norwich to the necessity of waiting, at the turnout stations, for the passing of the regular trains—the railroad consisting, for the chief part of the line, of a single track. All the other trains run at regular hours, and are at the turnout stations at stated times. The outward train from Boston is of course so arranged as to pass the turnouts at these stated times; but the return train, as it leaves Norwich on the arrival of the steamboat, at whatever hour that may be, is subjected to the hazard of delays, in the manner above mentioned. The table shows the frequency of these casual delays, not exceeding usually a quarter to half an hour, but sometimes longer.

It will be perceived that of the outward train, one trip only in the two months exceeded 5 hours, being caused by an accident to

the engine, 7 were from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 hours, and 45 were $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours, or under. Of the return train, more than half, (from the cause above mentioned, which will be obviated in a great degree when the double track on the Boston and Worcester road shall be completed,) exceeded $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Two delays were caused by other accidents, which, with that on the outward train, making three in two months, are a very unusual proportion, these being almost the only instances of the kind which have occurred on this train since the Norwich road was opened.

The ordinary passenger trips on the Boston and Worcester railroad, including all except the steamboat trains, are performed in the regular period of two and a half hours, including the stopping in every trip at the intermediate stations, for receiving and discharging passengers. They rarely deviate more than one or two minutes from their regular period. The length of time occupied by the ten stoppings is about half an hour.

On the Boston and Lowell railroad, a part of the trains stop at five stations for receiving and discharging passengers, and part stop once only for fuel and water, and also on the downward trip, to attach the train of the Boston and Portland railroad—this train being detached on the upward trip without the stopping of the main train. The average time of performing the journey between Boston and Lowell for the last twelve months, by the trains which make but one stop, the distance being 26 miles, was one hour and six minutes. This includes all the delays occasioned by the storms of the winter season, as well as by all other causes. The average length of these trips during the favorable seasons, is about 61 minutes. The average duration of all the passenger trains, during the last year, including those which stop at all the stations, was one hour and fourteen minutes.

MISCELLANY.

TANNING LEATHER, NEW DISCOVERY.

Mr. S. B. Howd, of Newark, Wayne county, New York, claims to have made an important discovery in the art and process of tanning leather. Leather is a compound of gelatine and vegetable astringent matter, formed by steeping the skins of animals in the infusion of certain barks. Before applying the astringent principles to the skins, they are usually prepared by soaking in lime water, which renders the cuticle and hair easily separable, and discharges the albumen; and are afterwards softened by allowing them to enter into a degree of putrefaction. In this state, they are submitted to the action of the tannin, or astringent principle. And it is at this point that Howd begins his experiment. The next step in the process is to bring the tannin in contact with every portion of every fibre of the skin, or in other words, with the gelatine, in order to form the above-mentioned compound of tannin and gelatine. We copy the following account of the new process from a statement drawn up by a friend of the patentee.

He constructed a cylindrical vat, air tight, with a pipe for the purpose of filling it, inserted at the upper side, and leading to a reservoir below; the pipe being closed by a cock near the inserted end. At the lower side, another cock is inserted, as a discharger. On the upper side is fitted a small vent-cock, for the admission of air at the time of discharging. On the upper side is an orifice, or man-hole, with a stop-plate, at which the skins are put in and taken out. And at one end, on the upper side, an air pump is adapted, with a cock below the lower valve, for the purpose of exhausting the air from within the vat.

Having thus arranged his apparatus, he suspended within the vat some skins, prepared in the ordinary way, shut down the stop-plate, closed the proper cocks, and worked the pump until he produced as near as possible a vacuum. This partial vacuum was kept up one hour, when the cold hemlock liquor from the cellar below was admitted into the vat and suffered to remain ten minutes. It was then discharged, and the vat exhausted of air, and kept so for another hour. The liquor was again applied and suffered to remain other ten minutes, and thus repeated alternately until the liquor had been applied to the skins six times ten minutes each; when a piece of calf skin of ordinary thickness was taken out, dried and curried, and by good judges was pronounced to be a first and unequalled quality of leather. Other experiments were tried, by which thicker and heavier pieces of skins were tanned by the same process, having the liquor applied to them from 12 to 18 times, of ten minutes each; and when curried, were declared by experienced shoemakers and tanners, to be handsomer,

stronger, and more flexible leather, than if tanned by the old slow process. By the first experiment, the whole time occupied in tanning a piece of leather was only 12 hours, and by the others, only 24 and 36 hours.

The theory of the process thus shown to be so completely sustained by experiment, is as follows: the exhausting of the air from the vat removes from the skins that atmospheric pressure, which is a prominent component principle of capillary attraction, consequently, greatly diminishing the force of this attraction, which, when uncounteracted, retains the uncharged liquid, and prevents its dripping from the pores of the suspended skins. The exhaustion causes a rapid evaporation, the result of which is to throw off in the form of a vapor, a large proportion of the uncharged water and acid remaining in and upon the skins; for liquids assume the aeriform state very rapidly, under a diminished pressure, especially if the vapor which is formed be drawn off as soon as it is produced, so as to maintain the vacuum, as in the case of these experiments. The rapid evaporation, caused by the vacuum, produces a very considerable reduction of temperature within the vat, the effect of which is to contract the fibre of the skins, thereby expelling by their contraction much of the uncharged water that may be remaining within and upon the skins. The removal of the air from the surface of the skins causes an expansion of the air within to such a degree, that much of it escapes, and is replaced by the liquor when admitted; and during its escape, it removes all particles of uncharged liquid that in any way impedes its progress towards the surface. The vacuum, when produced over the liquor in the vat nearly full, creates an ebullition, which continues so long as the vacuum is maintained, and which puts in motion every particle of liquor, removing the uncharged particles, and supplying their places by new charged ones, and in consequence of which, there is no necessity for moving the skins about in the vat. The almost total exclusion of light and air, during the process, gives to the leather a bright and lively color.

Such is the theory upon which the experiments were predicated. Experiments than which none were ever more successful, or based upon more philosophical or scientific principles. They were not tried under advantages not possessed by every tanner, but on the contrary, under some disadvantages not usually encountered by them. The apparatus was new, and the principles of the process, though plausible in theory, had to be accommodated to a number of imperfectly known circumstances.

The apparatus is not complicated or expensive—consisting mainly of an air-tight vat, which any joiner can construct, and an air-pump of the most simple description. Specimens of the leather tanned by Mr. Howd's improved process, may be seen at the stores of Messrs. Ford & Grant, and Coventry & Lewis, in this village. Mr. Howd has taken the necessary steps to procure letters patent, securing to him the benefit of his discovery, and is now ready to dispose of rights to use his improvement.—*Newark Daily Advertiser.*

AN IMPROVED MUSKET.

Within a few years past, an important change has been made in the military service of some of the countries of Europe, in introducing the copper cap, in place of the lock and flint. In France and in England, the copper cap has been partially introduced. In the meantime, an invention has been made by the Baron Heurteloup, and brought to the notice of the Russian government, of an improved mode of igniting the charge in the musket, which after a long continued series of experiments, has been adopted in the Russian service. The London Times gives the following description of this improvement, and of some of the experiments which have been made for testing its advantages. A meeting took place at Chalk Farm, near London, of several military and scientific gentlemen, for the purpose of testing the comparative merits of this musket, with that of the detonating musket with the copper cap, which has been partially introduced into the British service. The day was wet and boisterous in the extreme : 160 rounds of ball cartridge were fired from the Baron's gun in an inconceivable short space of time, without a single failure or hang-fire ; and indeed, from the formation of the piece itself, which has the lock placed under the barrel immediately before the trigger, and which is further, by a most ingenious contrivance, completely secured from the action of the weather, the priming being contained in a continuous thin, flat metal tube, impervious to moisture, and inclosed in the stock of the gun itself, rain or wet can have no effect on the action of a musket so constructed. It is, however, the composition contained in this tube, and the simple manner in which it is acted upon, that gives the invention its great superiority over all the other fire-arms now in use. The tube in question, which is about eight inches long, by about one eighth of an inch wide, contains detonating powder sufficient for thirty primings, and is in the first place inserted in the body of the stock under the barrel. A very simple mechanism causes the extremity of this tube to advance over a flat-topped nipple ; and the cock which strikes it is so constructed, as to cut from the tube that portion which lies over the nipple, and the hammer acting upon it almost simultaneously, produces the discharge. Leaving out of the question the chemical merits of the composition, which will admit of a part being cut off and exploded, without igniting the remainder of the contents of the tube, the mechanical merits of the gun, as a military engine, are extraordinary. It combines within itself all the *desiderata* of cheapness, strength, simplicity, certainty of fire in all weathers, and capacity for rapid execution, which are required in a soldier's weapon, and is as great an improvement over the copper cap lock as that is over the old flint and steel principle. Many old officers have doubted the wisdom of adopting the copper cap for soldiers' fire-arms ; and there can be no doubt that, in a military point of

view, it is subject to many grave objections, on the score of inconvenience to the soldier using it in wet weather, or with cold hands ; from its liability to fall off and split when exploded, to the injury of the man standing next ; from its great insecurity from dampness, its chemical affinity for moisture, and its liability to be injured by hydrometric changes, not to mention its difficulty of management in the clumsy and awkward hands of a soldier, acting in haste, under the excitement of a fire. The whole of these drawbacks are said to be avoided by the Baron's invention, which, in the opinion of the military men present at the experiment, was by far the best adaptation of the detonating principle to the common musket that has yet been seen. We are informed that the gun in question has lately been submitted to the inspection of the master-general of the ordnance, with a view to its adoption in the British army. Let us hope it will be afforded a fair trial, before we throw away our money in altering the old musket, as it must be obviously bad policy to risk the expense of altering the soldiers' arms until proper experiments have been made to ascertain whether a better description of musket cannot be obtained for him. The recent experiments convince us, that the Baron's invention can be applied to all fire-arms ; and it is, without exception, the greatest improvement yet accomplished. We are informed by a correspondent at St. Petersburg, that the Russian government has resolved on adopting it. It appears that this resolution was not agreed on until after numerous experiments had been made with 2,000 muskets, for a period extending from the beginning of the month of February last, until this moment, during which time every variety of climate and temperature had been experienced, and when the thermometer was frequently so low as 25 degrees of Reaumur. During these experiments, nearly one million shots had been fired without a single failure, and until, as our correspondent expresses it, the officers appointed to watch the proceedings became tired with the monotony of the experiments, in which they could find nothing faulty to report. It seems also that some guns on the copper-cap principle had been tried at the same time, but had been absolutely rejected, as it was found that in particular states of the atmosphere, wherein great cold and moisture were present, the guns on the principle of the copper cap were subject to many most serious objections. In point of fact, the number of effectual shots made with the Baron Heurteloup's gun were, beyond all comparison, infinitely more numerous than those made with either flint locks or percussion caps, which the officers charged with the duty of making the experiments attributed to the fact of the lock being placed below the stock, thus offering no obstruction either on the score of fire or smoke to the accuracy of the soldier's aim, independently of the sense of safety which is experienced from using an arm which by no possible chance can fly or eject any *detritus* to injure his face or person, an advantage which was not found to exist always in the copper-cap gun. There can be no doubt, now that this musket is regularly adopted in the Russian service, that our Government will see the propriety of making some experiments ere it be too late, to test

the comparative merits of an invention which we may reasonably suppose would not have been adopted by our northern rivals, if they had not found very sufficient reasons for their preference.

THE DEBTORS' PRISON OF CLICHY, IN PARIS.

At the higher extremity of the Rue de Clichy, backing the walls of the new garden of Tivoli, was situate the hotel Saillard, already celebrated in the pageantry of contemporaneous history. It was there that, under the Directory, the famous club of the Clichians assembled. Since then, under the restoration, the master of this princely mansion has received there the *élite* of the aristocracy, and the Duchess of Berri has often conducted dancing choruses in these buildings, which were in future to become a prison.

In 1825, the hotel Saillard was bought by the city of Paris. The price of the first purchase, and that of the new edifices, amounted to nearly 2,000,000f. In order to fit the hotel for its new purposes, it became necessary to pull down all the buildings facing the street, and to construct a road which surrounds the house on all sides. There only remained the little hotel, or court of honor, in which the apartments of the director are located, in front ; on the right, the lodging-house of the *employés*, and on the left, the laundry and the quarter belonging to the women. When this first court is crossed, you arrive at the register, and it is only then that you perceive the first grating and the first bolt. The register is a beautiful inlaid place contiguous to the cabinet of the director. Through the two grated windows the garden is seen. This latter is so beautiful, and so well kept, that you would imagine yourself in a chateau, or at least in a hospital of the first order. On coming out from the register, and crossing to the left, the post of the inspectors (*surveillans*), you arrive at the winter promenade, or walking place. This is a monumental hall, 43 feet long by 18 feet wide, adorned with 18 columns, pierced with four large doors and six windows, opening upon the garden to the right. On the left is discovered the first row of cells, 9½ feet long by 7 feet two inches wide. This walking-place, as well as the corridors, and the four stories of cells, is inlaid, and warmed by one common stove, which, including for the combustibles and the maintenance and repairs, &c., costs from 12,000 francs to 15,000 francs per annum.

The state is only bound to furnish the debtors with the four walls of their cell, leaving them the option of furnishing it as they may think proper. Very few avail themselves of the right of procuring their furniture from without : 99 out of 100 prefer hiring that belonging to the establishment.

When the debtors arrived at Clichy, they found themselves in a paradise, in a fairy palace, in comparison with St. Pélagie. Since then (as one easily gets accustomed to good fortune) they have again begun to complain. Only find me, however, prisoners who do *not* complain! In revenge, the creditors exclaim that their debtors are by far too well off; that such an imprisonment as that is a mere party of pleasure into the country—a chateau life, &c. The Administration, perfectly well seconded by the director, allows them to go on saying these things. The law has given them unfortunate men to guard, not malefactors to punish; therefore they (the Administration) allow the debtors as great a portion of liberty and enjoyment as is compatible with their situation. In the garden there is an admirable promenade, besides games at siam, bowls, and nine-pins; in the winter walking-place, there are also games at quoits, chess, backgammon, and the *jou de dames*, as well as books and newspapers to read; in the chambers, the prisoners play, laugh, dine, have music, and, by special commission, Count Léon once made the walls of Clichy resound with the same hunting-horn that M. Le Prefect has driven out of Paris; luckily, on one side of his room, he had for his neighbor one both deaf and dumb. Foils are proscribed in the new establishment, on account of a certain master of arms having written above his cell at St. Pélagie the following words:—‘Crevécoeur, first master of the grand army; here people are taught in 15 lessons how to kill their creditors cleverly!’

In a debtors' prison there cannot be entertained any idea of instituting forced labor; nevertheless, those prisoners who have a profession are at liberty to exercise it. At the same time, in order to avoid any competition or clashing in a society so small in numbers, only one man in each trade is authorized to work for his companions in misfortune. Thus, there is only one bootmaker and one tailor; an apothecary, who possesses a diploma, sells drugs and herbs, &c.; one prisoner keeps a reading-room; he has an additional cell, adorned with a table, a green carpet, and an elegant lamp; the prisoners read there by the month and by the hour. It is useless to tell the reader which of the journals are taken in; reign who will, the prisoners will always be found on the side of the opposition! We inquired of this prisoner if his business flourished? ‘The business is all very well,’ replied he, ‘but it is the *credits* which ruin one; they all pay so badly at Clichy!’

Among the cells on the ground floor there is one appropriated to a barber, who comes from without. He is an old officer, decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor and with that of July; his situation may be worth about 1,200f. net per annum. People cried out with some justice against the *restaurant* and the *café* of Clichy; the prisoners spent whole days there, and abandoned themselves to habits of the most scandalous extravagance. The public halls were closed by an ordinance dated August 1, 1838. Since that period, the prisoners come in turn to order their meals; the meats, &c. are brought to them in their chambers, where they receive as many guests as they like, from without or within. The cook is M. Dubois, successor to Michel, with whom we were all acquainted in the Place Dauphine. The city

furnishes him with the room and the stoves, on condition of his feeding eight assistants, or *hommes de peines*, and conforming to the tariff decreed, at a very moderate rate of prices, for all the articles of daily consumption. In the time of the common halls, M. Dubois made more than 400 francs a day, inclusive of 300f., the amount of his credits, &c. At present his sale is hardly 150f., but as it is all for ready money, he is a gainer by it.

At St. Pélagie, the prisoners had, and still have, each a small stove in their chambers. They have been abolished at Clichy, and a large stove has been built, at which the prisoners have the privilege of warming up the provisions brought to them from without. This stove is kept up by the Philanthropic Society. Each prisoner leaves ten centimes every three days, on receiving his provisions (*alimens.*) This reserve also serves to pay for a bathing place, and for the maintenance of the garden in proper order, &c. The above society also furnishes the needy with the 12f. which it costs to get out of Clichy, in consequence of a non-supply of provisions.

Visitors are admitted from 10 to 4 o'clock, and from 8 to 6 o'clock, according to the season. Out of 1,200 permits delivered, there were presented about 800 each day. The men receive visitors in their chamber, and shut themselves up there, if they think proper; but the ladies are only to be seen in a parlor, exposed on all sides to the eyes of the inspectors. The women occupy in the first court a small building quite isolated, they communicate with the cook by a private passage, but, as there is no stove in their quarter of the prison, they have a chimney in their rooms, and each is allowed half a cart load of wood. Eighteen rooms are reserved for them, of which there are only eight occupied at the present moment, and there have never been more than twelve occupied. They have also a small garden, and hear mass in a grated gallery. The chapel is both simply and tastefully fitted up; the chaplain, with a salary of 700f., is a very amiable old man; he was formerly the preceptor of M. Gisquet.

The infirmary, large and well aired, is equivalent at least to the finest halls of the officer of the *Val-de-Grâce*. Notwithstanding this, the debtors are very reluctant to go there, on account of its solitude, &c. They prefer being attended to in their own rooms, and in this case they pay themselves for the visits of the physician and for medicaments. The physician of the house, with appointments amounting to 1,000f., is M. Petit de Maurienne; he has also two gratuitous adjuncts, M. M. Boucher du Gua and Hédiard.

The personnel of Clichy is composed of a director, two registrars, one brigadier, six inspectors, four *garçons de service*, eight assistants, paupers of the *dépôt* of St. Denis, a laundress, and a female servant for the women. Its force is a *corps de garde* of 30 men, commanded by an officer. To sum up, Clichy is a model prison, due regard being had to its object and purposes. In no other place in the world are detained debtors more humanely or more suitably treated.

THE NEW MODEL PRISON IN LONDON.

The discussion which took place in the Court of Aldermen on the 5th of this month, wherein Sir Peter Laurie mentioned the great increase of lunacy which had taken place amongst the prisoners confined in the Middlesex Penitentiary, consequent upon the exceeding strictness with which the system of silence and solitary seclusion had been carried out in that establishment, has been already laid before the public. In order, however, that the readers of *The Times* may judge for themselves upon a subject so interesting to humanity, we shall endeavor to give a short description of the prison in question, leaving it to the judgment of the public what are likely to be the effects of a system of solitary imprisonment carried on strictly in such a place.

The new model prison is situated in the Chalk-road, which leads from the bottom of Pentonville-hill to Holloway, and is near the Caledonian Asylum, and when completed it will contain 500 prisoners. It is surrounded with walls of considerable height, which inclose within them, in the shape of an irregular pentagon, an area of $6\frac{3}{4}$ acres.

The entrance to the prison, which faces the Holloway-road, is through a low doorway, placed between two massive columns of no great architectural pretensions, and the door-way itself, when viewed from the entrance, affords no bad representation of the door-way of a sugar-baker's refinery, being low and wide, and only wanting a crane to complete the resemblance.

Upon entering this portal, the visiter finds himself within a long and wide passage, lighted at its furthermost extremity by the large windows of a stone hall of considerable size, at which this passage terminates.

On either side of this passage are placed the necessary offices of the gaol, with apartments for the subordinate officers of the prison, and at its further end, on the right hand, a magistrates' room ; none of these apartments, however, are of any large dimensions, nor is it until we arrive at the large long hall at the end of the passage, and which is also the central point of the gaol, that an idea can be formed of the immense size and shape of the building.

On arriving here, we become aware, for the first time, of the extent and plan of this curiously constructed edifice.

On the right and left hand of this apartment, and stretching in a direct line with each other, we observed two immense wings, divided through their whole length by corridors, whilst before us, in an oblique direction, two other similarly constructed wings diverge, in a fan-like form, from this point, as from a common centre, so that a person standing in the hall, at the end of the entrance-passage, will take in at one view the whole extent and plan of the prison, as he will have a corridor on either hand of

him through the centre of the wings, running in a line with each other, and two others spread out before him, and radiating at a slight angle right and left from that point of view.

Each of these wings is on the outside 189 feet long by 49 feet wide, and is divided through its whole extent by a corridor in the middle 16 feet wide, carried up the whole height of the building, and lighted by a skylight at about the middle of its length, and also by a large Gothic window at its extremity, and contains three tiers of cells in each of its sides, placed one over the other, each tier containing 21 cells, so that there will be 63 on each side of the corridor, or 126 in each wing.

The approach to the cells is from a staircase springing from the centre hall and leading to three galleries, running the whole length of the corridor, and supported by iron brackets projecting from the inner walls. The cells themselves open into these galleries, and are each in the shape of a parallelogram 13 feet long by 7 feet wide, and are all of them of one uniform height of 12 feet; they are lighted by means of a small window in the shape of a segment of a circle, placed near the back wall of the cell. Immediately under this window, and in the left-hand corner of the cell, is a stone water-closet with a cast-iron top, acting on a hinge let into the wall; and on the floor by the side of this seat and close to the wall, is a small iron plate, perforated with holes for the purpose of admitting warm air to be supplied through flues communicating with immense stoves situated in the basement of the wing. The foul air will be carried off, and a circulation of atmosphere maintained by means of openings in the wall over the door of the cell, which communicate with immense chimneys placed about the centre of each wing.

The doors of the cells open upon the galleries before mentioned, and are formed of solid iron, having in the centre of the upper part a small eyelet hole, so arranged that the keepers or turnkeys may, by looking through them from the outside, observe all that is passing in the interior without being seen by the inmates. Each cell is to be fitted up with a small bed and a table, and will be occupied by only one prisoner, who will be constantly confined therein during the whole period of his sentence, except at those hours of the day appropriated to divine service and bodily exercise.

It must be observed here, that the end and object of these arrangements are centered in the absolute separation of the convict from his fellow-prisoners, or from without; the grand feature of the system to be adopted in this gaol is the utter and complete seclusion of the convict from all objects, either external or internal; the prisoners must at no time during their imprisonment, whether at prayer or at exercise in the open air, see each other, nor may they converse with each other; every method is taken to prevent such an occurrence taking place, and to such an extent is this carried, that even the pipes which convey the soil from the water-closets are furnished with valves to prevent any communication through that channel; in fact, every thing that human ingenuity can suggest, has been employed to isolate the pris-

oner, so that from the moment of his entrance to the expiration of his term of imprisonment, he will never see the face or hear the voice of any human being save that of the turnkey or keeper, and the chaplain of the prison, and him only at stated intervals.

So strictly are these principles proposed to be carried out, that it is said that on any occasion occurring to require the convict's removal from one cell to another, or at the hours of worship or exercise, he will be required to wear a mask or hood over his face, so as completely to hide his features; and this mask will only be permitted to be removed when the prisoner returns to his cell, or is so placed as to completely shut him out from the view of any one except his keeper.

In order to enforce this silent and solitary system, the yards and spots wherein only the convict will be permitted to exercise in the open air will be separated into partitions by walls; so that, though 100 prisoners may be taking exercise at one and the same time, and within a few feet of each other, they will be as effectually separated, as regards seeing and hearing, as though they were miles apart.

This is effected in the following curious way. Circular plots of ground are laid out between the wings of the building, and are surrounded by high walls. From the inside circumference of this circular wall 27 other walls will be erected at about nine feet from each other, and will all of them converge to a point in the centre of the circle, where they will gradually diminish till they approach to within three feet of each other. Thus it will be seen that between these walls there will be 26 spaces, similar in form to those between the points of a mariner's compass. Into each of these spaces only one prisoner will be admitted at a time; a space is left in the centre of the circle wherein the keeper will take his station, and who will thus have the means of watching 26 prisoners at a time, almost unobserved by them. A part of these walls will have a projecting covering to shelter the convict in wet weather.

When the prisoner is to be exercised in these walks, he will be taken to them hooded and masked, and the hood and mask will be removed when arrived between the walls, but will be resumed by the prisoner on his transit from his walk to his cell.

The exercise ground in front of the prison is built on the same principle, saving only that the walls are parallel to each other, which is the only variation.

Thus it will be remarked, that the only exercise he will be permitted to take will be, as it were, between the walls of a narrow alley, with nothing visible but the sky, and with nothing to amuse or relax his mind.

To return, however, to the building, which contains beneath each wing 12 other darkened cells or dungeons for refractory prisoners, and as the same means that exclude the light will exclude the air, nothing can well be imagined more dismal or more unhealthy.

The convicts will be supplied with such work during their confinement as can be carried on without noise, and consistently with the strict seclusion which is the very essence of the system, and will work

in his cell, whence he will never be permitted to emerge but at the times appointed for exercise or prayer.

Over the entrance passage there is a chapel, which will contain at one time about half the prisoners, but who from its particular construction will be unable to see each other, although the clergyman will be visible to all. No hospital or infirmary appears to be provided for sick prisoners, who will be treated medically in their respective cells.

Many other minor points may be observed in the construction of this building, but which do not appear to offer ground for any special comment. It will suffice to say, that for the purposes for which it is professedly meant to answer, namely, that of solitary and absolute seclusion and separation from society and from each other, no prison can be better calculated, as the means taken to secure such an object are each perfect in their way, and exhibit much ingenuity in the projector of them.

Here praise must end; for from the principle which this prison is meant to carry out in its greatest extent and rigor, we must dissent in the strongest terms, as unnecessarily cruel, impolitic, and injudicious.

Every reasonable man who will give himself the trouble to think what are the legitimate ends and objects of all punishments short of death, will see that they are twofold: in the first place, to avenge society for the outrage committed on it by the malefactor; in the next, by coercion and restraint to improve the mind and morals of the prisoner, so that at the expiration of the term of his incarceration, he may be restored to society improved, or, at all events, not incapacitated by injury to his bodily or mental health from taking that part which society requires every man to take to prevent him becoming a helpless burden on the community.

To judge of the effect of long-continued and solitary confinement on the mind or body of a thief, it will be necessary to know something of the peculiar idiosyncracy of that class of beings.

The confirmed thief is generally a cunning and acute man in a particular way only. Take him out of the path in which he has been accustomed to walk, and he will be found illiterate, ignorant, selfish in a remarkable degree, cowardly, and superstitious to an extent incredible to those who are not acquainted with his habits. Immure such a being for a lengthened period in solitary confinement, isolate him, as is proposed, in the new gaol, and you will find him the most helpless and resourceless wretch within himself that ever crawled, without energy to look forward, or courage to look back; with no mind to reason, or head or heart to support him, seeing only in the recesses of his own guilty mind and heart a dreary and dreadful void. Without religious principle to support him, or knowledge to direct him, in the search of that peace which religion only can afford to the guilty man, his mind will prey upon itself. Misery will follow the want of excitement, melancholy will give place to despair, and if not relieved by contact with living beings, madness or idiocy must follow.

It is a dreary and dreadful thing for an ignorant man, who derives his knowledge and his sensations only by the eye and from external

objects, to be shut out from the contemplation of nature, and from commerce with his kind. Memory, reflect on, or recollection, may supply the place of society in the educated man ; he has something to start from, something to employ his mind ; but with the ignorant thief, whose memory presents only the image of his own misdeeds, who has neither fancy, reason, nor reflection, solitude is indeed dreadful, and cannot long be supported without sapping the foundations of mind and body.

To teach such a man religion you must begin at the beginning ; daily and hourly must he have the fundamental truths drilled into him by another, for he can never learn them by himself, and how can that be done in a prison like that we now speak of ? It is impossible ; an imperfect knowledge of religious truth may lead to enthusiasm in a weak-minded but credulous man ; it will give rise to nothing but superstition of the most dangerous kind in the mind of the thief, and superstition leads naturally to suicide or lunacy.

It is a serious feature in the construction of this prison, that it is not in the power of the governor, even if willing, to modify the sufferings of a hypochondriac prisoner, by introducing him to the society of others ; the construction of the place forbids it, and in such cases sinking nature must fail for want of that excitement which is necessary to health, and which can only be obtained by intercourse.

There is obviously a limit to the extent to which solitary confinement may be carried for any good purpose ; the duration of such period will be different in differently constructed minds ; the time necessary to bring the hardened offender to his senses, and to a right knowledge of himself, and a proper appreciation of his own conduct, should be the measure of its continuance ; but here all must suffer alike. The hardened and repentant, the robber sentenced for seven years, and the pilferer for one—all suffer the same amount of misery, for it will be found that the greatest suffering is always over after the end of the first week or fortnight. Yet to neither of these can any alleviation be offered. Death only can relieve them ; and, if the system be carried too far, madness will seize those whom death has for the present spared.

It will be well to look in time into the effect of this system, or, if other prisons be built on the same principle, a mad-house will be a necessary adjunct to a county prison.—*London Times.*

IRON WAR STEAMERS.

Our readers will recollect the account which we gave, last year, of the two armed iron steamers, the Nemesis and the Phlegethon, built by Mr. John Laird, of North Birkenhead. They will also recollect, that both these vessels proceeded to the China Sea, and joined the expedition directed against the Chinese empire. Accounts lately received from China by the overland mail, show the use to which one of these vessels, the Nemesis, had been put in the attack on the fleet of junks lying in Anson's Bay. "The steam-vessels," says the account in the *Times*, "then attacked the fleet of junks lying in Anson's Bay, but, owing to the shallowness of the water, only the Nemesis could approach them, towing 12 armed boats from her Majesty's ships. Her first rocket set fire to the powder magazine of one junk; 18 others were blown up by their own crews, and the rest escaped into the inner waters." The buoyancy of the Nemesis is owing to her being constructed entirely of iron, and her consequent light draught of water enabled her to enter a harbor inaccessible, not merely to the ordinary vessels of war, but even to the other steamer. The result was the total destruction of the Chinese junks. In the attack on the forts, the Nemesis also did good service, having, in conjunction with the Queen, thrown shells into the upper tower which commanded the lower fort. A letter dated Macao, Jan. 7, gives further particulars of the service rendered by the Nemesis on this occasion:—"The Nemesis, after disembarking the 37th regiment native infantry, took up an advantageous position under the upper battery of Chuenpee, in company with the Hon. Company's ship Queen, and commenced throwing shells with good effect, lodging many within the walls, thereby enabling the troops to advance and take possession, which they did in the most gallant style. This accomplished, she proceeded round the point to assist in silencing the lower fort, throwing in grape, canister, and musketry, thereby distracting the attention of the enemy on the sea-side, and giving the troops and some of the Hyacinth's crew, whom we observed sealing the walls, greater facilities for entering, which they speedily did, driving all before them. She then pushed on to attack the war-junks, strongly moored at the mouth of a small and shallow river at the bottom of Anson's Bay, and, when within five hundred yards, commenced a heavy fire of shot and shell on the four largest, which was returned by them. The first Congreve rocket fired by her took terrific and instantaneous effect, blowing up one of the largest, with all her crew. The others being soon silenced, she then despatched her boats in company with those of her Majesty's ship Sulphur, and one or two others from the Larne, Calliope, and Hyacinth. Junk after junk was boarded and set fire to. The whole, eleven in number, blew up as the fire reached their magazines, and thus were completely destroyed. She now proceeded to a town up the river, much

to the astonishment of the natives, and brought away two junks which were moored to the shore, without firing a shot, or receiving any, such was the consternation at her appearance alone at a place only navigable for junks. A remark made by Captain Elliot, the Chief Superintendent, that the Nemesis had done the work of two line of battle ships, proves, that her services have been somewhat important; one shot only struck her, the others falling short, or going over." The importance of steam vessels, particularly those of a light draught of water, for warlike purposes, is strongly set forth in the following letter, dated Alexandria, March 16:—"So much has been done, of late, in the Levant, by steam, that every body is now alive to its capabilities as an element either of war or peace, and is ready to ask, 'What will it do next?' Ibrahim Pasha can only account for his loss of the coast of Syria in a week by confessing that the 'steamboats conveyed the enemy here, there, and every where, so suddenly, that it would have required wings to keep up with them! One might as well think of fighting with a genie!' Commodore Napier, on the other hand, seems to think that steam is only in its cradle on the ocean, and is still swathed and bandaged down in many ways by the old-fashioned midwifery of our 'naval architects.' It is many years since he advocated the systematic introduction of war steamers, as a branch of the service, to form, as it were, 'the cavalry of the navy;' but they have never yet launched the kind of vessel he recommended; spacious, to hold a month's fuel, instead of a mere ten days' supply, as at present; shallow and broad-bottomed, to skim over the water (without ploughing through it) with the least expense of fuel; and furnished with cast-iron tanks or reservoirs for coal, so that as it was expended, water might be pumped into them, and the best sailing line be preserved or re-established at pleasure. These broad bottoms, he confesses, might roll about more than the Cyclops and Stromboli, but what would that signify? There could be no danger where the centre of gravity was properly arranged: and they would be thrice as effective in a blockade as transports, or in any long voyage or lengthy service. The Commodore has lost money enough, and won renown enough, in the employment of steamers to entitle him to give a good practical opinion in the matter; and it is to be hoped, for the sake of all concerned, that it will not be further postponed in deference to the dogmatic disciples of Dr. Lardner."—*Liverpool Albion.*

HONG KONG.

The following account of Hong Kong is written by a French artist of the name of Borget, who spent some time in China, and who has several Chinese landscapes, sketched from nature, in the French exhibition now open at the Louvre :—

"The island of Hong Kong is situated about sixteen leagues east of Macao, and forty leagues to the southeast of Canton. It is separated from the continent by an arm of the sea, which is so narrow that at three different points the distance is less than a quarter of a league. Its length is less than three leagues, at least as well as can be judged from one of the highest mountains. It is about a league in breadth on its western side, and a league and a half on its eastern, where two tongues of land advance into the open sea, and form a quantity of small bays. I was told that there was a rather extensive village in one of these bays, but as I only saw the southern part of the island from the top of one of the mountains, and as it is less interesting than the side which looks upon the continent, and in which is the harbor, I will not speak of it.

"The island of Hong Kong is very mountainous, and is scantily furnished with wood. The mountains are, in several places, studded with blocks of rocks, which rise above the soil. They are also covered with excellent pasturage, which the Chinese, who know so well how to make use of every thing, still cannot utilize. Every year they set fire to the dried grass of these beautiful meadows.

"On the side which looks towards the continent, that is, the eastern, the island of Hong Kong contains several small valleys, not very large, but in which every thing that can be cultivated, is admirably so, and with that care which the Chinese alone are capable of. The hills, which surround these vallies, are generally barren, but, as soon as the inhabitants can get a little water, they set to work, and divide it with such a rare sagacity, and in such just proportions, that they soon change barrenness into fertile fields. The most important valley is that which faces the bay, and the town of Cowloon, situated upon the continent, and which I have visited. This valley opens upon the sea by two narrow gorges, formed by a small hill placed at the end of the valley, and upon which pines and some other trees scantily grow. This valley is certainly the most populous, the most picturesque, and the best wooded in the whole island. No doubt there will soon be English houses and villas in it. Nevertheless, the first establishments will not be placed on this part of the island, for it is too far from the bay. The most barren, the most naked, and the most gloomy part is, without exception, that of the west. But there also is the bay, one of the most vast and magnificent I have ever seen in China. It can contain a great number of vessels, to which it offers an excellent anchorage, and a sure shelter against the northeast wind and against

the violent typhoons which desolate the coast during the southeast monsoon from July to October. During my sojourn in the bay there was a very violent one, which we scarcely perceived. The bay is formed to the south by the western shore of the island, to the north by the continent, which is very high, on the west by the mountains of the island of Lantao, and to the east by a tongue of land which separates Hong Kong from Cowloon. It is to this tongue of land that some Chinese came, after the adoption of the anchorage of Hong Kong by the smuggling vessels; they built a few cabins and established a small dock, in which they repaired the boats belonging to the English and Americans. During the war the Mandarins burnt the cabins, destroyed the establishment, and expelled the Chinese, in order to prevent their holding any relations with the barbarians, or to punish them for having held them before. As this was the point that was nearest to the anchorage, the captains made it their place of rendezvous, but they rarely absented themselves from the sea coast. I crossed this tongue of land in order to go to Cowloon, and I found alternate valleys cultivated with rice, and hills covered with tombs. Almost opposite the place where the vessels anchor, there is in the island a spring, where the boats take in water. This point is still desert, but it is probable that the first factories will be built there. It will be necessary to make some works there, for the smallest boats cannot approach the shore on account of the little depth of the water. But these works will be excessively easy, because the sea never beats with any great force, because the bottom is sand, and because the island furnishes a great quantity of material for building. At all events, in the bay of Cowloon, at a point very near Hong Kong, there are magnificent quarries, from which I saw stones ten feet long extracted. There are four passages for entering into the port of Hong Kong, two from the west, of which one coming from Macao is, and will always be, the most frequented, the other, opening towards the river of Canton, by doubling the northeast point of the island of Lantao; this is the way which the Chinese and English schooners took in their voyages from Canton to the ships which served as *entrepôt* to the smuggling trade. The two other passages are on the east. One called Wonko-been-low, is situated between the continent and a small island which separates it from Hong Kong. The fourth, which is called Wonkonlow is that which is taken habitually by the ships from the eastern coast, and this is the way I came. I will say nothing of Hong Kong as a military point; for the Chinese consider the least European fortifications as impregnable. Whatever may be the stipulations of the treaty concluded between the English and Chinese, all foreign commerce will soon be transferred to Hong Kong. Canton and Whampoa will be abandoned on account of the expense of pilotage, which is excessive. The merchants of all nations will send their ships, and give each other rendezvous in the English *comptoir*. Should they even be allowed to reside at Canton, I doubt if they would profit by it. I do not think many British subjects will expose themselves to the dangers they have already run, and which they

must remember; for whatever may have been said since it was past, there certainly was real danger. Many of them, I am sorry to say, have shown themselves very ungrateful towards Captain Elliot, whose firmness and resolution alone has perhaps saved their lives. Our worthy and excellent missionaries will also undoubtedly seek from the English a protection which has often been refused them at Macao.

Many times have they been on the point of being driven from that establishment, and have only been allowed there through the generous benevolence of Captain Elliot; and when we think that their principal danger was from the ridiculous jealousy of the Portuguese, who pretended to have the sole right of sending missionaries to China, and who never send any! The English only adopted the anchorage of Hong Kong, after having been driven from that of Cap-sing-moon, three leagues to the north of Macao, where the Chinese had constructed forts. They had been established a year at Cap-sing-moon, when the quarrel commenced, and after numerous refusals, only quitted it when they heard of the arrival of Commissioner Lin at Canton. Then, undoubtedly to escape the vigilance of the new governor, they all came into the roads of Macao, under the French flag."

THE BRIDGE OF CUBZAC.

M. Emilius Martin has just published, in Paris, on the subject of the bridge of Cubzac, over the river Dordogne, in the south of France, a set of plates of great interest for those engaged in public works.

The bridge of Cubzac, is one of the most remarkable works which has been executed in France, for several years. It does great honor to the head engineer, de Verges, who planned and has completed it. It is known that the bridge and the works attached to it, extend in their whole length to a distance of 1,545 metres, or nearly a mile. The bridge properly so called, is 545 metres, [1820 feet] long. It is divided into five spans or arches, of 109 metres [357 feet] each. The elevation of the wooden flooring over which carriages pass, is twenty-eight metres [92 feet] above the water. The cast iron pillars which support the chains and the carpenter work, are, without contradiction, the most original part of the bridge. It was impossible to lay stone piers, because the Dordogne has not a sufficiently solid bottom. Supposing stone pillars, the weight of one pier would have been six millions of kilograms. With cast iron pillars, including the foundation of masonry, each pile weighs no more than two millions, 100,000 kilograms. The design and execution of these cast iron pillars proceeded from M. Emilius Martin de Fourchambault, M. Martin (of the North) at that time minister of the public works and commerce, authorized him, notwithstanding the prohibition of articles of English casting, to

cause two of these pillars to be cast in England, in order to prove the possibility of the thing. It was on this guaranty of the practicability of the undertaking, that M. Verges determined to accept the plan of M. E. Martin.

Mr. Martin's publication contains every thing relating to the pillars, from the melting, respecting which he gives very curious technical details. The disinterestedness of M. Martin, who thus lays open his secret to all engineers, cannot be too highly praised. The pillars of Cubzac are a novelty in the history of public works, and thanks to the publication of M. Emilius Martin, the process by which they are fully laid open to the public.

LORENZO STARK,

Or, a German Merchant of the Old School.

[Translated from the German.]

[John Jacob Engel, the author of this story, was born at Parchim, in Mechlenberg, in the year 1741. He early gave proof of great talents, and had every opportunity given him of improving his mind by study. In 1765, he received the appointment of professor at Gottingen, and at the same time an invitation to become librarian at Gotha, and the tutor of a gentleman at Paris. In preference to all these he concluded to take charge of the Gymnasium at Joachims Valley—in Berlin. Here he lived in great intimacy with, and enjoyed the respect of, the literary men of his day; he was made member of the Academy of Sciences, and wrote there several of his well known works. He was appointed by King Frederic William II., director of the Grand Theatre at Berlin. He is considered as one of the best classical prose writers in Germany. His Romance of Lorenzo Stark, of which we here begin the translation, is highly esteemed in Germany; his biographer says it may be considered as a lasting monument to the memory of the grandfather of Engel, Brasch, who was a rich merchant and counsellor in Parchim.]

CHAP. I.

Mr. Lorenzo Stark, passed in the whole city of H**, where he lived, for a very singular, but also a very excellent old gentleman. His external appearance, his apparel and his deportment, announced

at the first glance, the old German simplicity of his character. He wore cloth of one color, but of a very fine quality, either gray or brown; on his head, a short bob-wig, or upon great occasions, a well powdered clubbed one. His little hat had been twice out of fashion, and had twice come into fashion again. His stockings were drawn up with great care above his knee, and the strong-soled shoes, upon which shone a pair of very small, but highly polished buckles, were cut off square at the toes. He was no friend to superfluous linen. At the bosom, and over the hands, his greatest state was a fine neck-cloth, trimmed with lace.

The failings, of which this excellent man had not a few, and which often fell heavily on those who lived with him, were so intimately woven in with the best of his qualities, that it seemed as if the one could hardly exist without the other. Because he was in fact much wiser, than most of the persons who were about him, he was very obstinate, and somewhat egotistical. Because he felt that his feelings and actions gave no just ground for reproach, he was a very frank, and often a very severe judge of the morals of others, and because, from his natural kind-heartedness, he was not easily made angry at any failings, but still could not allow them to pass unnoticed, he was very ironical and sarcastic.

In regard to his coffers, he stood uncommonly well, for he had, during the long years in which he had traded and kept house, followed the simple rule, that one, to become wealthy, must give out less than he takes in. As his beginnings were small, and he was indebted for his fortune entirely to his own activity and economy, he had in his early years, helped himself very sparingly, and afterward, when he long since had made his first twenty thousand, of which he was accustomed to say, that it came harder than all his after accumulated fortune, the original spirit of parsimony still ruled in his household, and this was the principal reason of the ever-increasing growth of his property.

Mr. Stark had, of a large family of children, only two survivors, a son, who, after the example of his father, was devoted to trade, and a daughter. The latter was married to one of the most celebrated physicians of the place, Doctor Harvest, a man who was not less skilful in introducing people into the world, than he was in retaining them there. He had a house full of children, and this helped to make the daughter a favorite of the old gentleman, who was a great friend of children. The son-in-law lived near the church which Mr. Stark attended, and so it happened that he dined every Sunday with the son-in-law; and if his piety had sometimes so slumbered that he was disposed to neglect the church, his paternal love would not have allowed him to slight his dear grandsons and granddaughters. It went to his heart when the little swarm sprung to meet him, with shouts of pleasure, at his entrance into the house, hung upon his hands, and upon the skirts of his coat, and solicited from him the presents with which his pockets were filled. While grace was said at table, the eyes of the little ones would sometimes rove about, and he would say to them in a low voice, attention! attention! but no one in fact was paying so little

attention as himself; for his whole heart was where his eyes were, with his grandchildren.

With his son, on the contrary, Mr. Stark was greatly discontented. On the one hand he was too extravagant, because he spent too much money in dress, riding, and dissipation; especially he frequented coffee houses and card-parties too much. On the other hand, Mr. Stark was grieved that his son, as a merchant, had too little of the spirit of enterprise, and as a man, too little of the benevolence and generosity of his father. He considered him as something between a miser and a spendthrift, two things which Mr. Stark equally despised. He himself was the true economist, who, in his gains and his savings, did not so much regard the money as the good which might be done with it. When he saw no cause, he gave no dollar, but when the cause appeared worth the sacrifice, he gave in the coldest blood, whole hundreds. But what troubled him most about his son, was his position, that he should remain unmarried in his thirtieth year; and that, according to every appearance, he was going to increase the number of old bachelors. The father had not advised the son to any marriage—the son would conclude no marriage without the consent of his father, and both differed so much in taste and in their manner of thinking, that they could never be expected to agree in their choice or their wishes.

Mr. Stark had given up his whole commercial business to the oversight of his son, who, in compensation for his trouble, received the entire profit of a not unimportant branch of it. But the money transactions, of which he had numerous and important ones, Mr. Stark senior retained in his own hands. Meantime, more especially, because he had not the most full confidence in his successor, he never ceased to complain about the business, as well as the course of life of his son, and as the latter often neglected something, or performed it in a different manner from what his father would have done, many unpleasant scenes arose between the father and son, which at last became very bitter and disagreeable.

We give in the next chapter only one of the last of these scenes, which had very important consequences to the quiet and happiness of the family.

CHAP. II.

The young Mr. Stark had given his word to appear at a public concert, and for this end had thrown himself into a light brown velvet coat and a vest embroidered with gold. He had lost some little time in his preparations, and now entered with great haste the common working parlor, where the old gentleman was sitting, counting out money.

"Frederic, Frederic," called he, opening with some noise, the door he had just closed.

"God bless us," said the old man, laying down his spectacles, "what is the matter?"

The son ordered a light for sealing letters, seated himself at his writing table, and murmured aside to the old man, "I have work to do, letters to write."

"In such haste?" said the old man, "I have repeated to you too often, to work diligently, and moderately, is of much greater advantage, than to work in a heat, and by fits and starts. But, well, well, the sooner one rises from the writing-table, so much the sooner he can go to—"

The card-table, he would have said, but at that moment Frederic came in with the light, and he recollects himself, and swallowed the word.

"To whom are you writing?" began he again, after some time.

"To Everard Born, at S**."

"The son?"

"The father's name is Augustus, not Everard."

"Good, my regards to him; I often think of my last summer's journey, when I made his acquaintance. He is a most excellent young man."

"Oh yes," murmured the son to himself, "who might not be such a one!"

"An orderly, laborious, polite man, born to be a merchant. Such courage to undertake business, but never without reflection. In his outward appearance, so decent, so simple, no friend to velvet or embroidery, and what I prize him most for, no card-player. I do not believe he ever in his life lost a groschen. If he ever plays, it is not with cards, but with his children. He has such lovely children. Ah, and the old man, his father, how freely and confidentially he treats his father—he is a happy man. I know fathers," continued he, in a somewhat lower tone, "who may envy him."

"Write or—" said the son, while he struck one pen after another on the table, and threw it away.

The old man looked on for a while. "You are too angry, it seems to me."

"Who would not be?" muttered the son, again to himself.

"Am I the cause of it then, have I not suited your taste?" He stood up and went to his son's table. "I know you are no friend to winks and hints, and I also know how to speak plain."

"Oh it is of no use," said the son, and wrote on.

The old man took the pen quietly out of his hand, wiped it, and laid it down. "See," he began, "it grieves me more and more, day after day, that I have a man with so large a head, and so little a heart, for my son. A man, who for his dress, his pleasures, his ombre, his whist, spends one ducat after another, sometimes even by the dozen, who passes hours at the card-table, and who, if a benevolent action is to be done, would not perhaps be master of a dollar, a man who always lives unmarried, because no match is rich enough for him, and who yet always has enough to drive, to ride, to make himself a gentleman,

to wear velvet and embroidery. I cannot be wrong," continued he, after a pause, "for you make me no answer."

"Oh I could," said the son, while he stood up, with warmth, "but—"

" Speak then, what hinders you ?"

"I am tired of living in this manner."

" So I should hope."

" I am now I think a man, and no longer a child ; why am I always treated like a child ?"

" Son, son, there are old children."

" I am attentive ; I never neglect what is to be done. I never put out of sight respect, and honor towards you."

" Obedience a little."

" I take care of your affairs with honesty and good faith, and yet, I cannot pass an hour in peace ; every moment of my life is imbibed with reproaches without end ; every recreation, every miserable pleasure, is grudged to me."

" You speak harshly, but very true, every *miserable pleasure*."

" Miserable, because, it costs me nothing, or but a trifle. What have I lost, when have I lost ?"

" The most costly thing in the world, time."

" And shall I then have no enjoyment in my youth ? Shall I ever go on laboring like you ? Ever bear, restrict myself, as you do, that—"

" Now what stops you, speak out."

" That I may save by dollars, to throw away hundreds."

" Throw away !" said the old man, to whom nothing in the world appeared so insupportable as for children to judge their parents for the free use of their self-earned wealth. " Could I have thought that the young man would become my guardian. Throw away, what do you mean by that ; what do you call throwing away ? speak." He went toward him, and took him not too softly by the arm. " To keep one's purse open for every honest man who wants it ; is it that ?"

" Honest" said the son, with a somewhat lower tone, "if they were all honest."

" I am very seldom deceived. I look my man first in the face, before I give, and what do you call throwing away ?"

" You lend to all, without receiving the least return."

" Fool, without receiving the least return." He drew his hand from his son's arm, and gave him a look full of contempt. I have the return of seeing that my fellow men are the better for it ; do you call that nothing ? And when I am carried down the long street, and leave all here behind me, I hope many will say, with tears in their eyes, ' Pity for the upright man, I, with my wife and children, have to thank him for all I have. I was in want and came to him ; he helped me out, and I could stand with honor.' With you, on the contrary—yet why do I stand and preach to the wind. Your head has a philosophy of its own, and would to God that it was a different one. Now go to your work again, write, write."

CHAP. III.

Mr. Stark placed himself again quietly at his table, and took but little notice that the son, for a long time, walked about with large, heavy strides. He thought that it was well to leave a beaten, crying child time to dry up its eyes, and that it was unreasonable to order an aroused passion into immediate quiet and repose. The battle in the heart of the son would probably, as it had often done before, have decided in favor of childlike love and respect, and all would have gone on as before—but unluckily a man just at that moment came in, who was, for more than one reason, detested by the younger Stark.

There was a certain Mr. Speck, one of the small beginners, who, on every occasion, laid claim to the wealth of the old gentleman, and who were more fortunate in their applications, than agreed with the wishes of the son. This man had an advantage over all the rest, inasmuch as he was a godson, and a relative, at the same time—recommendations which with Mr. Stark, in compliance with old custom, were very important, and entitled to consideration. But the principal ground of dislike which the son had against him, was a suspicion he had, that Mr. Speck had taken occasion to calumniate to the father, the character of a very amiable widow, Madame Lilius, who was very much esteemed by the son, but very little prized by the father, and that this same Mr. Speck had given occasion for all the bitter things which the son had from time to time been obliged to hear said of her.

“Ah,” said Mr. Speck, in his usual hypocritical manner, while he, upon his very entrance, to his great vexation, met the son, who was still pacing the apartment—“ah, most worthy Mr. Stark, even upon the threshold I am so happy.”

His low reverence and his simpering face had never appeared so disagreeable and insupportable to the son, as at this time. “What is the matter, what do you want?” said he, in a somewhat rude manner, to the astonished and alarmed visiter.

“Indeed!” said Mr. Speck, taking hold again of the handle of the door, “I hope I do not come inopportunely, that I do not cause any disturbance?”

“Very possible. Time is precious, sir.”

“Very true, very true, with all of us, and more especially with you, with a gentleman who does so much business, who carries on such a large concern. Indeed, I sometimes cannot understand—”

“What is the matter, what do you want? I ask you—to borrow again, before the old debt is paid up? Or have you any news to bring of the widow, your neighbor? If so, turn to my father, and not to me.”

While Mr. Speck had his eyes in every corner, and did not know whether he should go or stay, whether he should be silent or make answer, old Mr. Stark, whose hearing was rather weak, and who was not certain whether he heard any thing, or what he heard, turned round

upon his stool, and helped the visiter out of his anxiety, by a friendly welcome. The son seated himself again at his table, to go on with his writing.

"Well now, and what are you in want of?" said Mr. Stark, after several unimportant questions, "for you are not apt to come for nothing, my dear godson?"

"I—I would be so bold," stuttered the other, while he threw a mistrustful glance toward the son, "I this day found occasion, some different little occasions—"

"I do not understand you, what occasions?"

"I am thinking to conclude an advantageous bargain, to make a little profit."

"That is well, that I like, always doing something, my dear Speck."

"But the beginning is the difficulty. The purse is so narrow, and so empty. If one lends a hand, he has taken the land." This, by the way, was one of Mr. Stark's own sayings, which Mr. Speck was accustomed to mark carefully, and bring out himself, with good effect, upon occasion—"and therefore, I would, if it could be done without inconvenience—"

"Draw fresh provisions, is it not so? Now out with your speech!"

Mr. Speck laughed, and touched the old gentleman several times in succession on the shoulder, with the tip of his fore-finger. "You are an excellent man, dearest godfather."

"Yes, yes, because I am so good a prophet; but was that what you were talking about with my son; has he already discovered it?"

"I wished—I had the intention—but—the young gentleman—"

"Would probably have regretted, would have found it out of his power."

"It seems almost so."

"It may be so, the times are not always the same, and I think he may perhaps now be in want himself of money."

"Ho, ho, dearest, best Mr. Stark, how witty you are sometimes."

"Witty," said the old man, and looked over to the other table, to the richly embroidered vest. "Do you not see that my son has worked up his gold. Every one has his own taste, to be sure; one fancies a full, the other, an empty purse."

These words, spoken in a very ill humor, but in a tolerably good-natured tone, for Mr. Stark was indeed a joker, but not a malicious one, and if in his anger he began to jest, it was always a sign of returning peace, these words succeeded to bitter, earnest reproaches, and were spoken in the presence of a hated and despised man, and they could have none but an unhappy effect upon the heart of the son. He sprang up impatiently, murmured some violent, inaudible words between his teeth, and opened the door.

CHAP. IV.

"Indeed," said Mr. Speck, both whose arms fell down in fear, by the side of his body, "the young gentleman is greatly excited, very angry. I hope that my presence—"

"Not at all," said the old man, by way of consolation, and he inwardly began to repent his own haste; "it is only his way, he never does otherwise." He then gave Mr. Speck the necessary sum, with an accompanying warning not to risk his money, not to engage in a business which was larger than he could comprehend and oversee himself. "Moreover," said he, "on account of life and death, I should like to have a little acknowledgement of the debt in writing; you can bring it to me this afternoon."

"Certainly, certainly!" said Mr. Speck, and touched him again, as before, with a gentle caressing hand upon the shoulder. I thought as much, dearest godfather, I thought you would help me. My wife, too, said, go again, said she; such another man as Mr. Stark, does not live in the wide world."

Mr. Stark interrupted him with—"enough, enough, now good morning."

Speck would have given a great deal if he could have taken back that unlucky speech of his wife's, but it was out, and it was the means of sending him away.

Mr. Stark signed to him to turn round again, and threatened him, not altogether in jest, with his finger, "since you have begun, my dear Speck, and because I have forgotten until now to speak of it, tell me now honestly, are you not a little too much in love, and managed by your wife?"

"Indeed—now—a young husband—to be sure—"

"Poor Lilius was a young husband, too, and now the widow; she whom his money petted and dressed, and danced and fêted, you know better than I can tell you, what her situation is now. Not quite as glorious as it used to be, I fancy. Take care, my dear Speck, be you on your guard."

"But how, my dear godfather, how—my wife—"

"Is very much in the fashion, she spends all she gets, and for that reason, I warn you, because you are a beginner, and because I think you used to be a good housekeeper. I warn you. You have a weak side, and your young wife has found it out. Am I mistaken?"

"Dearest, best godfather."

"You do not willingly own it. Very well—but I beseech you, as a friend, dear Speck, take care of yourself. Be a man. With a bad housewife, the best household falls to the ground, there is no help for it. You may pour into a leaking sieve, and pour in to your own disgrace. You will never have any thing, to all eternity, if you have a thriftless wife. I know very well," continued he, after a short silence, and with a smile, "I know how the women manage."

" You say truly," sighed Speck, and put his finger behind his ear—" but there it is."

Mr. Stark resumed, " then they drive the young husband into a corner, have humors, hysterics, whims and faintings, and God knows what all ; and then again the weather-glass rises, and warm summer breezes blow, then alack ! how they flatter and caress and coax, and just as unexpectedly as before, they turn round again, suffering this, suffering that, going here and there, doing this and that, fools as they are, every one's wife is just like the rest."

" Now, indeed !" cried Speck, whose heart grew light again, at the good humor of the old gentleman, " It seems as though they had sate for their portraits."

" And when they have the poor fool in their net, their kisses, kind looks, and all that—"

" Just so, how you describe them," said Speck, while he showed the greatest astonishment, " all nature, feature for feature."

" Oh I know, I have gene through all the schools. But the executioner,—godson. The husband must be a man, he must have a heart of steel and iron. Always loving, never in love ; and what does a man lose, if he stands to it. He gains, on the contrary. He who gives up to his wife, has now and then a fair day ; he who maintains his authority, has them always."

" Now see," said Speck, while he looked round, and put on the harshest look of which his senseless face was capable, " I will think of your counsel, I will in future show myself to you, in a very different light.

" But, the manner, the manner, you know."

" Ah, indeed,—the manner is the main thing, that must never be forgotten." And now making an excuse of business which called him home, he took his leave, with the strong resolution, to risk nothing, which he might repent, and to begin nothing which he could not certainly carry through.

CHAP. V.

While Mr. Stark, in his maledictions of the fair sex, forgot all his own vexations, the son retired to his apartment in great bitterness of heart. " To treat me in this manner," said he, " his only, his affectionate son, and that, too, in the presence of such a despicable, unworthy fellow."

Such an insignificant, poor wretch, he might have said, who with bowing and flattering, winds through life, and for the rest, passes for a very good, honorable sort of person.

" To make me the object of his sport, his contempt, his laughter, and that in such a malicious, aggravating, artful manner, at the very moment, too, when I was at work for him,—and such groundless suspicions, without any foundation, to reproach me in such a manner."

Groundless indeed were the old gentleman's suspicions, especially as regarded the card-playing and dissipation. But the father could not judge of the present course of his son's life, except from its resemblance to the past, and so he supposed that his time was now spent in coffee-houses and at the card-table. He never imagined that what he supposed his son's idle moments, and even half his nights, were spent in a most praiseworthy, honorable employment, and that this praiseworthy, honorable employment, had a certain condition attached to it, that the son would on no account have had made known to the old gentleman.

But the son was not disposed at this moment, to make any reflections which could excuse or could justify his father's strong and extravagant expressions, which impressed his vexations more deeply in his soul, and he at last came to the conclusion, to change at once and entirely his situation. That he would break off altogether his union with his father, that he would leave, not only his paternal mansion, but his native city, and in an entirely strange place, with the little that belonged to him, build up a house for himself. Reason itself, thought he, not only allows, it demands this resolution : for I have lived for this full thirty years in such heart-gnawing vexation, oppressed with such murderous care and trouble, that to hope for a second thirty in such a position, would be folly. And he could not see why he should sacrifice more than the first, best half of his life, to a singular, incomprehensible, father, who never went any further than his own prejudices. His heart spoke loudly, and he saw nothing opposed to it in the statute-book.

Indeed, this separation from his father was no new idea, but had been long thought of, and arranged. The how—and where, and the means had been ordered, and only the when had been left uncertain. This idea had always vanished with the anger which had given rise to it, and the vexation which had nourished it. If it now stood firmer than ever in the highly imbibed spirit of the young man, and shortly came to a decisive, irrevocable resolution, it was because it had another foundation than the ill humor of his father, a foundation which Mr. Stark kept so secret, that he scarcely dared to stand upon it himself. Until recently it had been his favorite plan, to unite himself with the richest and most splendid lady in the city ; but all at once, love had played him the most artful, the most malicious trick, and had given all his inclinations to a person, that did not possess one of the advantages which could excuse his passion. It was neither the peculiar beauty of face or form, though she was in the first bloom of youth, nor did she display the greater and more remarkable powers of mind, which would have found no where a more zealous admirer than in Mr. Stark. Of wealth, this person had very little, except such as is only valuable to the first owner, and which cannot so easily pass over to another as property, namely, a couple of lovely children. In short, it was the very Madame Lilius, against whom Mr. Speck was so imbibed, and whom we have heard the father so severely criticise.

It is well known that in dreams one often asks himself whether he

is waking or dreaming, and that the answer is generally the opposite to the truth—he is awake. Mr. Stark several times when he had sat opposite to Madame Lilius, in a very tender state of feeling, had asked himself in good earnest, am I still free, or am I in love? and the answer had always been, free. Nevertheless, with all his freedom, he hardly felt courage to meet all the jests which he knew would follow an event, improbable to be sure, but not altogether impossible, and which he only thought of for the joke. These jests which would come to him, not only from his father's house, but from many families, who kept an eye upon such a rich heir, and at the same time such a handsome promising young man as Mr. Stark, for their own grown-up daughters, and who thought him a desirable match for them in spite of all his father's peculiarities.

The best way in this case would have been, not to have seen Madame Lilius any more, but this could not be helped for a hundred reasons, while he lived in the same place, and having come to this conclusion, or rather having seen nearer what he had before viewed indistinctly, he resolved that he must seek to get away, the sooner the better. Yet as it was before said, he had not come to the true knowledge of this strong reason for going away. Mr. Stark had sworn, body and soul, that it was his singularly obstinate father, who had driven him out into the world—had driven out his only, his most useful son, who had labored so many years for him and his family. How kind he was at heart may be known from the grief with which he thought on the evil reports which would arise, and the extraordinary embarrassment in which the old man would find himself; but still, he might have had it otherwise, and the son could not help it.

CHAP. VI.

The only one of the family, who had any idea of the state of the young Mr. Stark's bosom affairs, was his brother-in-law, Doctor Harvest; and his knowledge of it was very imperfect. He had attended, as family physician, the late Mr. Lilius, during his last illness; he knew that on account of some vexatious commercial business, a great enmity had arisen between the younger Stark and Lilius, and he himself had been the mediator who had effected a very satisfactory reconciliation between the two, previous to the death of the latter. On occasion of this reconciliation, Mr. Stark had given the dying man his solemn promise, that in case of his death, he would support his widow with his aid and advice, and especially that he would put in the best possible order the commercial affairs of Lilius, which he gave him to understand were in no slight confusion. This generous promise had filled Mr. Stark with the greatest zeal, he had devoted to the widow's affairs, every moment of his personal labor which he had been able to spare, for whole months, and the Doctor, who, on occasion of a severe illness of the lady, had been called to make her a visit late in the even-

ing, found him deeply and zealously engaged over her books. He had remarked, on this occasion, that the really noble and amiable qualities, which her present sad situation served to develope in Madame Lilius, and to which the Doctor himself did full justice, might not leave the heart of his brother-in-law, entirely undisturbed. He had been surprised at the confusion, and sudden indignation with which Mr. Stark had received an innocent warning, which he had thrown out in jest, that he must take care and not fall in love, and he had gained some light on the affair, from the prayer which immediately followed, in which Mr. Stark begged him, for the love of heaven, not to betray by a word, to any of the family, more especially to his father, any thing regarding the relations into which he had been drawn with Madame Lilius.

Meantime, half a glance was sufficient to convince the Doctor, that this union of zeal in her service, of timidity and secrecy, indicated love, yet he had not supposed, that this love had gone so far, as a resolution to marry the lady, if possible, which the young man now announced to him. Mr. Stark desired the Doctor to keep this resolution also a secret, but this the Doctor positively refused; he rather wished to secure the active assistance of his wife, as well as his mother-in-law, to keep back the young man from so rash a step, and one which would be so disadvantageous to the whole family. He could not doubt that Mr. Stark was in earnest in this matter, after all that he had seen and heard, and after perusing the letters which had been shown him.

All the trouble which they unitedly now took, to soften Mr. Stark, and turn him from his purpose, was entirely lost. To the reasons of his brother-in-law, he opposed other reasons; to the prayers and tears of his mother, he responded with ardent protestations of love and obedience, with the exception of this single point, and he received the alternate caresses and mockeries of his sister with indifference or rudeness. They perceived that the more they attempted to move and soften him, so much the more stiff and obstinate he became in his opinion; and it was then concluded, in the secret family council of the mother, son-in-law, and daughter, that an entirely different course must be taken, and since nothing could be done with the son, his salvation must be sought from the father. They felt certain, that on the first friendly conversation with the father, the son would joyfully give up a resolution by which he would become the first and the greatest loser. They unanimously agreed that the authoritative tone, and the mocking humor of the old man, was sometimes insupportable; that a son arrived at man's estate should be treated differently from a boy, or a very young man, and that every man had his own turn of mind, which, though it might be changed in certain outward and indifferent matters, could never be entirely and essentially altered. The old gentleman himself, they hoped, would, with his usual equity and reason, allow himself to be convinced of this.

But in what regarded the facility of working conviction, they soon began to doubt, since Mr. Stark had given so many proofs of stiffness and inflexibility of character, and they agreed that the attempt upon

him must not be made hastily and tumultuously, but carefully and methodically. The system upon which they arranged their plan of operations, was the following : The old gentleman entertained a very exalted idea of the sound reason and the good judgment of the Doctor ; the Doctor should therefore first make his appearance and open to him the resolution of the son to leave home, and inform him with due respect, but at the same time with emphasis, of the necessity, as well as the propriety of his changing his conduct towards him. The word of the mother had ever been of great weight in the family circle, and often, though to be sure never in so critical a case, her pressing representations, even if they met with some shakes of the head, had gained her point. The mother, therefore, should come in after the Doctor, and if the resolution of the old man began to waver, she should attempt to break the opposition of his heart, by prayers, and even tears. The daughter, they well knew, had a wonderful power over her father, with her caresses, and playful manners, and that she, on account of the greater harmony of her own disposition with his, was ready to accommodate herself to all the bendings and turnings of his humor, and almost always brought him round to her own views. She should appear at last, and give the last *coup de grace* to the old man, already exhausted by the eloquence of her husband and her mother.

Of the success of this skilfully laid plan, the mother alone felt any fear ; the Doctor felt sure, with divine help, of a good result, and the daughter boasted, with greater gayety, that there was nothing in the world, provided it were lawful and honorable, into which she could not cajole or persuade, her dear, old, good-hearted father. Yet it was her opinion, that the commencement of their proceedings should not be delayed, for her brother was already making considerable preparations, which indicated an intended journey. The yearly settlement of the mercantile accounts of the establishment was just ended, and this epoch would appear to the son necessarily the most proper for a separation from his father. The acuteness of this remark, which had escaped the others, was acknowledged and praised ; and consequently it was unanimously resolved, that the next morning they should go vigorously about the work.

CHAP. VII.

There was a capital to be paid in, and Mr. Stark was sitting before a table filled with Saxon, Brandenburg, Hanoverian and Brunswick new silver pieces. He hastily finished counting the heap of fifteen pieces, upon which he was engaged, when the Doctor entered, and he bade him welcome, with a joyful heart. His first question was after himself, his second after the little ones.

" They are sitting at home over their books," said the Doctor.

" Bravo, bravo, they begin early, they will soon come forward ; and do they show an inclination to learning ? have they heads ?"

"As far as I can judge, both; I am well content with my children."

"And I am too, indeed I am. Ah, if I had not the good little things, what a poor man I should be, with all this trash here," and then moved his hand in scorn toward the table. "For whom in the world have I gained it; worked for it. For my son there—libertine that he is."

"Even of him, my best father, I would speak with you."

"Very willingly. Now?"

"Only you must have patience to hear me through."

"I have both, time and patience, enough of both."

"You are so prejudiced against your son. You put the blame of his failings always upon himself alone; should it not perhaps be given to another, who shares it with him?"

"To another? It would be difficult for me to divine who that other could be. Who is it?"

"A very good, upright, excellent man. Now, to select one point, and that one which vexes you most of any thing—is it so entirely his own fault, that he still remains unmarried?"

"What? is it then mine?"

"A little, I think."

"Oh yes, in certain cases, exactly so. To be sure, such a wife as one sees every day fluttering about, a woman with her thousands, who has lavished thousands, who never is absent from a ball or a route, who plays cards, and is full of love intrigues, who cares neither for her husband nor her children; in short, my dear son, such a wife as the latest fashion in education turns out, and with whom, in the end, he would be glad, to my grief and sorrow, to the shame and disgrace of the whole family, to go into a court of justice—such a one he would have been willing to have, heartily willing; and could I give my consent, could I speak fair, when I saw him rushing to his ruin with his eyes open? If I should say to him, See here my son, here is a quiet, amiable, modest maiden, the child of high-minded and honorable parents, who will, to be sure, have but little money, but who has been brought up in simplicity and the fear of God; take her, she will thank you for it, she will love you, will love your children, will bring them up to be the delight of God and man, will save you more thousands than the other will bring you—should I succeed with him? Would he not stand there before me, with such a face, with such an under-lip, hanging down, so proud—"

"You are right, quite right."

"Well then."

"But if you are in all, if you are in every imaginable point of view. In one only—I am not sure." This he said with a very modest, almost timid tone.

"I should wish to know more exactly to what you allude. What is it?"

"The whole manner which you take toward him—the tone in which you speak to him, from morning till night."

"Hum—I am not obstinate, I take advice. What shall my tone be?"

"More friendly, more kind, more fatherly; if I may dare to say so."

"And is it then rough, is it stormy?"

"If it were only that, now and then a little passion, impatience, obstinacy, who would not willingly forgive that in a father, and so good a father?"

"Forgive that! How droll."

"And then in turn, goodness, frankness, love, confidence. But your cutting, your severe tone." Here the old gentleman moved in his chair, and the Doctor thought best to throw in some alleviating matter. "You must not take it amiss, it does not, to be sure, belong to me, to speak in this manner; I say it only in confidence of your indulgence, your continued irony and jeers, that, like light strokes, a single one of which is gentle, but which, following quick upon each other, and always touching the same spot, at last become insupportable; in short, your railery, your witty remarks—"

"Enough!" said the old man, "enough, I have nothing to say to that, you are right."

"And may I be so bold as to hope?"

"What? what?" while he looked with a pair of great and staring eyes, in such a manner, that the Doctor was thrown into confusion, "that I, in my old age shall change myself—that an old, full-grown, knotty stem, shall turn, shall grow in a different direction. That is impossible, my dear Doctor, impossible."

The Doctor, with all his good intentions on his side, began to be angry. "You are even now falling into this tone."

"Already, again? and that with you, with whom I have never *jest-ed*;" he said the little word *jest-ed*, with an emphasis, entirely his own. "Now you see for yourself, it is impossible, impossible—however, I have compassion on my son, and a thought occurs to me, a good thought, it seems to me, but you only can carry it into execution."

"Only I?"

"You have just shown me your great gift for the thing."

"What do I understand by that, what gift?"

"Yes, the happy gift of seeing failings, and telling of them. What if you should go and tell my son his? For that he has failings, I maintain to be a fact, serious failings. If you should say to him, 'You must not take it amiss, it does not belong to me to speak in this manner, I say it only in confidence of your indulgence,' or in any way that you can bring it about, gild your pill as you please. You know very well, dear Doctor—"

"Good, good," said the Doctor, and bit his lips with displeasure.

"In short, if you say, 'I have had a conversation with our father, he is a singular, wilful, obstinate old man—stiff in his back, stiff in his head—both will break sooner than bend. What if you my dear sir, the younger man of the two, should lay aside your failings, which make the irritable old man angry; if you, for example, should become a grave man, an economical housekeeper, an attentive merchant, I as-

sure you then upon my honor, and I give you my hand as security, you shall not repent of your words. I give you my word of honor, the old man will change towards us, he will love his son better than his joke, he will have no other care at his heart than how he shall make the heir of his house and of his name happy.''" Here Mr. Stark turned round again to the table, and took hold of one of the money bags. "Consider the thing at your leisure, it is a good proposition."

"I see well," said the Doctor, who could scarcely hide any longer his vexation, "there is nothing to be done with you."

"Have you found that out, many a man has discovered it before now. It is almost always so with people who act upon principle."

"I must then declare it to you plainly, you will be alarmed; but—your son—"

"My son?"

"He is about to leave you, he is going away."

The old man had just then taken a piece of money in his hand, which did not seem to him to be of the right weight. He examined it on each side, threw it upon the table, to hear it ring, and at last rejected it.

"Thirteen, fourteen, fifteen—will go away you say—where to?"

"You take it very patiently, but you perhaps imagine it is only an excuse, a stroke of art. I assure you on my word of honor—he is about to go away—to Br**, never to return."

"Will he? Ha, ha, ha, ha."

"You laugh."

"At something very laughable."

"Now upon my soul, I do not find it so."

"But I do—my dear, dear son, to take matters so seriously."

"And why not?"

"For a vain, wretched, miserable fit of the pouts."

"I fear you will soon think differently."

"Yes, if it were the first time he had had such an idea, but he has often taken it up. And easy as it was for me at first to restrain him, it was harder afterwards."

"Naturally. Because at first you took a great deal of pains about it. But he is going. Attend to me, dear father. He is going; and now what will the world think of it. Your son is known, not as a bad man, certainly; and you yourself would not have him so considered. Your business will of course pass into strange hands. You are too old, and too much loaded with other affairs to be able to watch these new assistants. Your wife will lose her only son, how unwillingly, you may imagine, we all."

"Oh folly, folly," said the old man, still going on with his counting.

"If you see it in this light."

"How otherwise?"

"I have done my duty, and must be silent."

"My dear, dear son," and he turned himself round for an earnest speech, having laid aside his spectacles. "Your reasons are good, are

excellent, but for whom? For my son, or for myself? If the world knows him for no bad man, I hope I may venture to say it knows me for a good one. On whom then will the most reproach, the most blame fall. If the business falls to the ground, who is it that bears the shame, who loses? I, the gray-headed old man, who has enjoyed his wealth, and am now going into the grave, or he, the young man, who will enjoy it now, and may still enjoy it, if he pleases." With this single jest, which escaped him accidentally, the old man was immediately restored to good humor. "What? what," continued he, with a kind of mimic anger—"a man that has not the heart to get a wife, will he go away, he set up for himself, he leave every thing here at a stroke—Oh, folly! folly!"

CHAP. VIII.

"Madame Stark, who had already been for some time at her post, thought she now observed an unfavorable turn in the conversation, and came in. Her maternal heart had overflowed, and she held her handkerchief to her eyes.

"Are you there, dear father?"

She too? said the old man to himself, and in his mind he had the full conviction, that the daughter would soon be here. "Yes, as you see me, dear mother." He got up and went to meet her, in a friendly manner.

This politeness troubled Madame Stark; she would have preferred, after the Doctor's proposition, to have found him scolding and angry. "Oh, I see, very well," said she, "I am going again to ask in vain."

"Why, because I am in a kind humor, do you mean? I am afraid of the same thing, because you are weeping. Living forty years with each other, makes us very well acquainted. If you feel you are in the right, you come to me so confidently, so joyfully, and I then remain in a state of indifference or repose; but if you feel you are in the wrong, you then weep for the ill success which you foresee, and I am then very kind that I may console you. Now make the trial; what is the matter?"

"Your son is going away," said she, with great signs of grief.

"If he pleases; you know he is no longer a lad, he is a man."

"Truly, truly, and for that reason—"

"He must know what is best for him to do."

"But to lose him."

"That is nothing new, sons go out into the world."

"If you would only speak to him, only speak one kind word to him, would only assure him."

"How, how, now just perceive mother! see what good cause you have for tears. I give my word, and to him, and wherefore? The young man I see has become very headstrong, very sullen; he is angry at having so watchful an observer, so troublesome a mentor; he would willingly stop a mouth, out of which he hears such unpleasant truths;

he makes plans to put me in fear, to keep me in awe of him—he would—what says the proverb—he would buy my spectacles. Even now he has a pair ready, which he is sure would infallibly suit me, and you come and beseech me, with tears, that I will hold my nose still, and let him put them on. “Say, is that right, mother; is that reasonable?”

“You hear him,” said the old lady, and stretched out her hand, with the handkerchief, to the Doctor. “This is the way he always repulses me. This shows how much he cares for me, how much he values me. I have only put myself in a situation to be despised and ill-treated.”

Mr. Stark desired her to be silent, for his heart was pained at the sight of sorrow, and he never listened willingly to what seemed to him to be unreasonable, but he besought in vain, and he was himself forced to be silent. At last he remembered that he was deaf with one ear, and that he could pull his wig over the other, which he immediately did, and went busily to his work again.

CHAP. IX.

“Where are you, then,” called the Doctor’s lady, while she thrust her head in at the door. “Oh I see, all here with father? Good morning, good morning!”

“Already so early,” said the old man, “before dinner?”

“I had some shopping to do, and was passing by, and I just flew in to bid my little papa good morning. For I know he is glad to see me always, is it not true?”

“As though there was any doubt of it?”

“If I had not come away so unexpectedly, I should have taken one of the little ones with me, the one who had been the best, or the most industrious. I kiss your hand in the name of them all.”

“Thank you, thank you;” he looked at her thoughtfully, but not unkindly: “you are extremely affectionate to-day.”

“Just as usual, I am always so.”

“And have you seen no one here, not your husband?”

“To be sure, at the breakfast table.”

“Nor your mother?” She made use of a shake of the head, that she might not expressly tell a falsehood, by saying no.

“Is it not proper, then, to kiss her hand?”

“Oh, pardon me,” said the daughter, and smiling aside, she saluted her mother.

“Have you not seen your brother?”

“I have seen, but not spoken a word to him. He passed me with a face, such a face! Ho, thought I, why should I trouble myself with your face—run on—No man puts me out of my good humor—for you know I am your own daughter.”

"Are you?" said the old man, and smiled with inward pleasure.

"Always gay, happy, and in good spirits."

"Whoever is with me, may keep his humors to himself, or if I meddle with them, it is only to laugh at them. That gentleman there," pointing with her finger at the Doctor, "has the experience of this."

"Foolish woman," said the latter, "have I ill humors?"

"Oh, you have, you have, for you are a man. But yet my dear father, it comes near me, to see my brother always so sad. I wish from my heart, he were happy. I, for my part, if I could help it, I would do every thing."

"Yes, you would do every thing. Yes, yes," and he got up and gathered up his sacks of gold.

"Are you going out, dear father?"

"I am ready."

"But cannot you stay a little while longer?"

"Why?" He gave her a sharp, significant, side glance, and threatened her with his finger. "Woman, woman, you have spoken with your husband, you have spoken with your mother, you have spoken with your brother."

"You mean to-day, here, in this house? No, indeed. With my husband and brother, not a word."

"But with your mother you have."

"Well? and was that not right?"

"Perfectly so. But now you come with the same petition as hers, only differently clothed, you understand. What she has said tragically, you say comically. Go, go, I am prepared for her, but with you—"

"You will not trust yourself?"

"In reason—for you see, when you beg, you beg as it were, with all your children, and that might be too much for me. Go,—"

"Oh now, you will not run away from me, or if you go, I will run after you, good, dear, best, little papa."

"Flatterer! cajoler—"

"I am no cajoler, if you will not be prevailed upon—"

"Now what would you have? take every thing," and he held out to her his money-bags.

"Not that, you shall not give me any thing, not a groschen."

"But you would have me commit a folly, for which, afterwards, I would give double, treble, not to have committed it."

"Folly, do you say? great God! as if it were a folly, for once, to be entirely good, entirely amiable. You are so towards me, altogether so; be so for my sake, towards my brother. For my sake, for you will then take from me the most painful feeling which I now experience. He envies me—I have more than once remarked it; he has all sorts of little suspicions, that I abuse your generous tenderness, and almost, if one should judge merely from appearances, he has reason; for does not he call you father, as well as I, and does he not enjoy far less of your love?"

"He the mother, and you the father, so it is all even."

"No, I beseech you, beseech you, as fervently as I am able. Cause him to remain, do not let him go away."

"Can I hold him?"

"With one single good word."

"Hum—which you mean shall be given by the father to the child."

"Good, means kindly, not humbly. Indeed, he has feeling, he is grateful. He awaits only the first opening of the paternal heart, and you have the best son in the world. If he should now imagine that I made use of his absence to injure him, that I wheedled you for myself and for my little ones, to gain that to which none of us have any right, but to which he has a right as well as I have. You know that this is not true, and that I am entirely incapable of such a thing, but he might think so, he would certainly think so, and my feelings on that account—" she had tears in her eyes.

These marks of tenderness of feeling, sisterly love, and disinterestedness, of the truth of which, there was no suspicion, rejoiced the old gentleman to his inmost heart, and he looked at her with greater tenderness. He thought he saw in her not only his flesh and blood, but his own heart and soul.

"Dear, good, best, little papa," continued she, and her tone and look contained every thing sweet and caressing; "all my children pray with me,—can you refuse them?"

"Well, then," said the old man, passing his fingers once or twice over his somewhat moistened eyes, "well I must do it, I will speak to him."

"Will you, certainly?"

"I will, as kindly as I ever did in my life."

"And soon?"

"As soon as I can—this very day."

"It is all settled then, will you shake hands upon it?"

"Yes, as heartily as ever I did in my life."

"But you are laughing so, inwardly, what is it at?"

"Ah, at myself. Let that pass." He had already, perhaps, decided in his own mind, how he should act—and he continued to laugh until he reached the door.

"Poor man," said he to the Doctor, as he passed him; "you are sadly deceived—you asked me for a wife, and I have given you a serpent."

CHAP. X.

"Now!" triumphed the Doctor's lady, when her father had gone, "was I not right, dear mother? was it worth all this fear and anxiety? Such a little family difficulty reminds me of a fire in the chimney, which burns out without causing an alarm."

"And do you suppose it is over?" said the Doctor.

"Entirely, entirely, my father keeps his word."

"It would have been better if he had promised more; but supposing you have gained your end, and that your brother stays for this once?"

"For this once, why then not always?"

"Will he conquer his weaknesses, will your father give up his caprices?"

"Never, never," sighed the mother.

"Hardly," assented the daughter.

"And then, what have we further to do; we wished to take away the internal cause of the disease, stop the source of the evil; and since we have not succeeded in that, we take a stand, and paint and plaster the sore; so that if we heal it to-day, it will break out to-morrow. That is bad practice," continued he, shaking his head, "from which I retreat in season, and leave it all to you."

"Wise, wise, and learned," said his wife, "but quackery often turns out well. Let me manage."

"What then if you should try a master-stroke?"

"A master-stroke? now?"

He walked the room with a look of disquiet, and rubbed his brows. "Oh, it is not to be done, it is a pious wish, it can be nothing more. Marry, yes, your brother must marry. A wise, modest, tender wife, he must get one."

"Such a one as you have got—should it not be?" and she looked at him with a smile.

"And if he could get just such an one."

"Oh, you wicked man."

He took her hand affectionately, and drew her toward him. Such a wife would keep him at home, near his business; for at home he would find her. It would disgust him with all the pleasures which he now roams about in search of; for with her, he would find those which are more elevated, it would withdraw him from the little follies of dress and fashion, for one does not dress for his own family, but for the world." He found the greatest support in this opinion. His wife thanked him, and his mother-in-law heaped flattering speeches upon him.

"All sources of discontent would then be stopped at once. Our father and all of us would be content. Yes, if it were possible," continued he, with a kind of inspiration, while his pace became more rapid, if it were possible, "that he should marry the widow, the good widow."

Here both the ladies rushed toward him, and brought their faces so near to his, that he was frightened, and stepped back. "What is the matter, what did I say?" began he.

"The widow!" cried both at once, "did you speak of a widow, you did not mean a widow—my best?"

The Doctor was displeased with himself that he had betrayed his secret, and did his best, to keep back the details of it. He was immovable; he could not then tell them the whole. But in the mean time,

his wife and his mother-in-law, by incessant questions, succeeded in drawing it out one piece after another, and finally they had learned so much, that he saw no reason for keeping back the unimportant remainder. They promised him the most solemn silence on the subject, and mother and daughter charged each other to the same effect.

Now when the ladies had time to examine their secret, they found they had gained but little by it. The widow had children, was without wealth, was no longer young, she had left behind her four or five and twenty years, the lover did not appear positively to have made up his mind—the father had prejudices against the lady—to remove his prejudices was very hard, almost impossible ; all these circumstances left for the son's love, ardent and tender as it might be, but little hope of a marriage, or at least of such a marriage as would lay a firm foundation for the quiet and peace of the family. They were all in as much perplexity as before.

Meantime the Doctor's lady consoled herself with the common remark, that one should not look too far ahead, that if the nearest prospect was not dark and stormy, he must be at rest. Perfect union was certainly the best, but then only a cessation of arms, and this at least she thought the family had gained, was not to be despised.

(*To be Continued.*)

THE FETE OF VERSAILLES, AND THE RAILROAD.

The railroad to St. Germain branches, a few miles from Paris, from that which proceeds to Versailles. It passes to the right ; you move on to the left, and open on a country which is one of the most picturesque that can possibly be imagined. The landscape on each side of the road is of surpassing beauty. The country seats of the Parisians are spread at every side. Gardens and vineyards are displayed in rich abundance. Flowers and fruits present a scene of luxurious indulgence. The river flows at a short distance. Paris itself is beheld in the distance ; the dome of the Invalids is recognized ; the tower of Notre Dame attracts attention. In fact, it is impossible to describe a more varied or more beautiful landscape. One cannot do it justice in description.

There is a radical defect in the Versailles railroad, and that is, the two lines of rails are laid too close together. The trains seem almost to touch as they pass, and one day or other, as a train is thrown a little from its centre at the moment of meeting, some dreadful accident will occur. Another sad error appears to have been committed by neglecting the due ventilation of the tunnels. In that which runs through the hill of St. Cloud, you absolutely choke for want of air ; and, to make the matter worse, the coal or coke is of so bad a quality,

that the vapor is of the most unwholesome character. I did not count the time in which we passed the tunnel, but the ladies of our party considered it to be an eternity of seconds. The journey was performed in three-quarters of an hour, and the train, having discharged its load, hastened back to bring fresh thousands to the scene of action.

There is one thing which I must say in favor of Versailles, and that is, its pavement is the worst in all the world; every stone seems laid so as to present a pointed surface; they are of all shapes, and of all sizes; no foot, however large, can cover a sufficient space to give a little ease; no foot, however small, can find room among their inequalities. It is clear, they were laid down in former times by a Roman Catholic people, for they give you a true idea of purgatory, or at least, in your idea, purgatory can have nothing worse. Unfortunately the terminus of the railroad does not command the park, and you have half a mile of these excoriating flints to manage; but when that half mile is won, you open on a scene which more than repays you for your toil. I do not say that of the park at Versailles on an ordinary week day, for then the alleys are deserted, and you see nothing but formal walks and close-clipped hedges; but as it was last Sunday, filled with 100,000 people, all lively, all gay, without noise or riot—it was a sight well worthy of being enjoyed.

Every where the happy Parisian *badauds* were spread, making the most of the sunny day. Here they walked in groups, admiring the oft-admired statues; there they were engaged in some childish, but innocent pastime; here they were gathered round a basket of refreshments; there they strayed apart, not talking love of course, for that would be naughty on a Sunday. One of the favorite games of the simple people was the blindfolding one of their companions, and allowing him to try and walk from one end of an alley to the other, without stepping from the grass. Not one could keep the straight line, every one pursued the crooked way—such is life, said the moralist. When I looked at this crowd, so peaceable, so orderly, so simple in its manner, I asked, can they be the same people who made two revolutions in a few years, and who are willing to make a third; who are said to be full of vice, and wickedness, and sin; who are fond of blood, and scarcely believe in a future state? The bulk of the people, let me hope, are good; they are too amiable in manner, not to be so in heart; it is only the exceptions that are bad; the guilty few stain the national fame by their excesses.

The *tapis vert*, or green carpet, is the favorite promenade of the select, who visit Versailles. It is a fine broad grass walk, commanding a view of the palace and the great basin. Chairs innumerable are laid out for the accommodation of visitors. Refreshments are easily procured, and there one may lounge, chat, and eat ices, and not envy the Pope or Louis Philippe, even Prince Louis Napoleon himself, who is the greatest man of the three, in his own idea.

The great lion at Versailles is the playing of the waters. It is rather an expensive amusement to the government, as the repairs after

one of these exhibitions, cost some hundreds of pounds. Still the people must be gratified, and I never saw anxiety more intense than that of the several groups, who ran from place to place, determined not to lose any part of the numerous cascades. Here, from the mouths and paws of lions spring high into the air a stream of water; there, from the mouths of some hundred frogs, flowed torrents. Neptune at one fountain spouted like a whale, and sea-nymphs at every side gave up a mountain flood. Some of the devices were rather pretty, and the *jets d'eau* crossed each other in infinite variety. But the grand triumph of the day was the fountain of the dragon. On that all eyes were bent, and for that the whole crowd remained for hours in anxious expectation.

The basin in which the dragon plays so distinguished a part, is of great extent. It may cover half an acre of ground; at one side the ground is formed like an amphitheatre, and there at least 50,000 persons were assembled, seated in deep rows, one above each other. At length, at six o'clock, the signal is given; at one moment a hundred mouths pour forth their liquid contents. The great dragon seems as if he had the Thames in his throat, while all the little dragons look as if tapped for drop-sies. I never saw such spouting, even in the House of Commons. The whole assembly were in motion together, all vomiting forth streams that would sink a seventy-four, while the crowd screamed with delight, and the little children clapped their hands on seeing the showers of spray which fell at every side, and the varied colors reflected in the glare.

Alas that such enjoyment should be marred by a little accident! One of the channels which fed the dragon burst, and the water, instead of rushing into his throat, ran among the people—then there was wetting of shoes, and spoiling of silk stockings—then there were mammas scolding, and daughters giggling, and papas calculating the additional cost—then there was the jostling and pushing to escape the stream—then the splashing into it as it stole through the grass—then the amiable attentions of all the young men, and, lastly, the certainty of colds and sore throats, and more scolding from papa when he got home.

CAPTURE OF THE BOGUE FORTS AND CANTON.

In the last number of the Chronicle, [page 233,] we gave a brief account of the capture of the Bogue forts, and the city of Canton. The following account, abridged from the official documents, will give the details of this enterprise, which will be read with interest, as it is a new and remarkable instance of the great superiority in warlike affairs, of European skill and discipline. The reader will have little difficulty in following the operations of the fleet, with the aid of the "Map of the River and Bay of Canton," published in this journal, Vol. I., p. 108.

Keshen's continued procrastination having at length exhausted Captain Elliot's patience, the Nemesis steamer was despatched from Macao on the 14th February, with the draft of a treaty for the approval and ratification of the imperial high commissioner. The commander of the steamer was ordered to wait at the Bogue for a reply until the 18th, and in the event of his not receiving one by that date, to return immediately to Macao. This he accordingly did on the 19th, Keshen not having made his appearance. A circular was then published, stating that the squadron were moving towards the Bocca Tigris. On the following day, Captain Elliot received a message from Keshen, in which the latter stated his willingness to sign the treaty, and excused his delay in not coming to the Bogue when the steamer was there, by alleging that he had been detained by some piratical boats. This appears to have been a mere *ruse* to gain time. On the 24th of February, a notification of the renewal of hostilities was issued to the English subjects.

Sir J. J. Gordon Bremer had the control of the naval operations. His account proceeds thus:—

"On the 25th, I arranged a plan of attack on the formidable batteries in our front, and of which it may be necessary for me to give some description. Partly surrounding the old fort of Anunghoy, and in advance of it to high-water mark, was a new and well-built battery of granite, forming a segment of about two-thirds of a circle; on it were mounted forty-two guns, some of them of immense weight and large calibre; several strong intrenchments extended to the southward of this battery, and the ridges of the hill were crowned with guns, up to a camp calculated for about twelve hundred men; at the north side was a straight work of modern erection, mounting sixty heavy guns; about one hundred and fifty yards of rocky beach intervenes between the end of this battery and the northern circular battery, on which forty guns were mounted; all the works were protected in rear by a high wall extending up the hill, on which were steps or platforms for firing musketry, and in the interior were the magazines, barracks, &c.

On the east end of the island of North Wangtong, is a battery with a double tier of guns, defending the passage on that side, and also

partly flanking a number of rafts constructed of large masses of timber, moored across the river (about twelve feet apart,) with two anchors each, connected by and supporting four parts of a chain cable, the ends of which were secured under masonry works, one on the South Wangtong, the other on Anunghoy; on the western end of North Wangtong is a strong battery of forty guns, flanked by a field work of seventeen; indeed, the whole island is one continued battery; on the extreme western side of the channel was a battery of twenty-two heavy guns, and a field work of seventeen, protecting an intrenched camp, containing 1,500, or 2,000 men. South Wangtong was not occupied by the enemy; it was an excellent position, and I therefore caused a work to be thrown upon it during the night of the 25th, and mounted two eight-inch iron and one twenty-four pounder brass howitzer; at daylight, on the 26th, Captain Knowles, of the Royal Artillery, opened this battery with admirable effect, throwing shells and rockets into North Wangtong, and occasionally into Anunghoy, which fire was returned by the Chinese, with great spirit, from a battery immediately opposite, having also kept up a fire during the greater part of the preceding night, (during the erection of the work,) which slackened towards 2 A. M., and finally ceased.

At 11 o'clock, the breeze springing up, the signal was made, and the fleet stood in.

In less than an hour, the batteries on Wangtong were silenced, and the troops, which had been previously embarked in the Nemesis and Madagascar steamers, consisting of the detachments of her Majesty's 26th and 49th regiments, 37th Madras Native Infantry, and Bengal Volunteers, together with the Royal Marines, were landed, and in a few minutes were masters of the island, without any loss: 1,300 Chinese surrendered.

The Anunghoy batteries had now been silenced by the beautiful precision with which the fire of the Blenheim, Melville, and Queen, had been directed, and perceiving that the enemy were shaken, Sir Le Fleming Senhouse, at the head of the marines and small-arm men, landed on the southern battery, and drove them in succession from that and the two others, and at 1 o'clock, the British colors were flying on the whole chain of these celebrated works; and the animated gallantry displayed by the whole force, convinces me that almost any number of men the Chinese could collect, would not be able to stand before them for a moment.

Our casualties are trifling, five wounded, slightly, in the whole force; the main-topmast, and fore-yard of the Blenheim were shot through, one thirty-two pounder gun rendered unserviceable, several shot in the hull, and the rigging much cut up; the Melville's main-topmast wounded, and rigging considerably injured; the Calliope was struck in several places, and the other ships had merely a few ropes cut. The loss of the enemy was severe, but not so heavy as at Chuenpe; 1,300 (as before stated) having thrown down their arms. I

should estimate their killed and wounded at 250 in Wangtong ; probably as many in Anunghoy ; at which place the Chinese Admiral Kwan, and several other Mandarins of rank fell. The body of the admiral was recognized by his family, and taken away the day after the action, under a fire of minute guns from the Blenheim.

On the morning of the 27th, the light squadron proceeded up the river, under the command of Captain Herbert, of the Calliope, and on the day following, I was gratified by receiving a despatch from him, reporting, that on their arrival off the first bar, the enemy were observed strongly fortified on the left bank of the river, close to Whampoa Reach, with upwards of forty war-junks, and the Cambridge (formerly an East Indiaman of 900 tons,) on approaching within three miles, the Madagascar and Nemesis steamers, having on board his Excellency and Captain Herbert, proceeded to reconnoitre and find out a clear passage, a number of vessels having been sunk ; on advancing, a heavy fire was opened on the steamers, which was returned with great effect ; the ships were now brought up, and opened fire on the junks, Cambridge, and batteries, which in an hour were nearly silenced, when the marines, and small-arm men were landed, and stormed the works, driving before them upwards of 2,000 of the Chinese troops, and killing nearly 300. In about half an hour after landing, all the defences were carried, (though in several places brave and obstinate resistance was made.) In the mean time, the Cambridge was boarded, and carried by the boats of the Calliope, Nemesis, and Modeste, and almost immediately set on fire ; the explosion of this vessel's magazine, must have been heard at Canton. The fort (mud) mounted on the river front forty-seven guns ; on the left flank three ; a field work four ; the Cambridge thirty-four ; besides ten mounted in a junk, making altogether ninety-eight guns.

The war junks escaped up the river, where the ships were prevented pursuing them, by a strong raft placed across the passage. The guns and other munitions were destroyed. In this gallant affair, the casualties (considering the opposing force) are few : one killed ; three dangerously, and five slightly wounded.

On the morning of the 1st instant, I proceeded up the river to join the advanced squadron. On arriving at Whampoa, I found from Captain Herbert's report, that the enemy were in considerable force at the end of "Junk Reach," having as usual sunk several large junks in the river, and further protected themselves by a strong double line of stakes across it, and large bamboos and branches of trees between them. On the following morning I detached Commander Belcher, in her Majesty's ship Sulphur, up Junk river to reconnoitre, that ship being taken in tow by three of the Wellesley's boats, under command of Lieutenant Symonds, senior lieutenant of the latter ship ; on rounding a point on the right bank, they came in front of a low battery of twenty-five guns, masked by thick branches of trees, which opened a heavy fire on them ; Lieutenant Symonds instantly cut the tow-rope, and gallantly dashed into the battery, driving the enemy before him,

and killing several of their number. The Sulphur anchored, and some shot from her completely routed them from the thick underwood in the vicinity, in which they had taken shelter, the guns were destroyed, and the magazine and other consumable material set on fire. The number of troops was probably 250, and they were of the chosen Tartars; their loss was about 15 or 20 killed, ours was one seaman of the Wellesley mortally wounded, (since dead,) and the boats were repeatedly struck by grape-shot.

As soon as a cursory survey of the river was made, the Herald, Aligator, Modeste, and Eagle and Sophia transports, were pushed forward within gun-shot of Howqua's Fort; and thus, for the first time, were ships seen from the walls of Canton; on the 2d, the Cruizer joined me, having on board Major General Sir Hugh Gough, who took command of the land forces. The Pylades and Conway also joined from Chusan, and the two first-named vessels were sent in advance. On the 4th, in concert with the Major General, an attack was planned for the next morning, but, on approaching, the fort was found to be abandoned, and the British colors were hoisted; a garrison of the 26th Regiment was placed in it, and a company of Royal Marines, under the command of Captain Ellis, R. M., took possession of a large joss-house on the left bank, (which the enemy were beginning to fortify,) and rendered himself secure, while the seamen soon removed some of the stakes and other impediments, and made a clear passage for ships. I may here describe the position.

On the right bank of the river, on the point formed by the mouth of a creek (which is a boat-passage to Whampoa,) was Howqua's Fort, a square building, mounting thirty guns, from the northern angle; the stakes mentioned, extended to the opposite bank, the ground on each side being low paddy fields, cut and intersected by canals in all directions. The joss-house rather projected into the stream, and consequently, was a good position. The river here is about 500 yards wide; two thousand yards in front, is a long low island, which divides the river into two branches, and on the extreme eastern point of which stood a fort, mounting thirty-five guns, built to commemorate the discomfiture and death of the late Lord Napier; from this fort, a line of well-constructed and secured rafts (forming a bridge,) extended to both sides of the river; on its right bank, flanking Napier's Fort and the raft, was a mud battery, intended for thirty-five guns, on the left was a battery, also flanking Napier's Fort, on which the enemy had forty-four guns, most of which they withdrew on the night of the 4th. In addition to these defences, stone junks were sunk in all parts of the river, between the stakes and the left of Napier's Fort, which raft also rested upon sunken junks, secured on either side within piles.

The position seemed formidable, and on the 5th the Major General and myself prepared to attack it. He landed at the joss-house, having with him the Royal Marines and a detachment of the 26th, for the purposes of taking the battery on the left bank; the ships weighed, and dropped up with the tide; on the approach of the first ship, the en-

emy fired all their guns, and fled across the rafts and in boats. The British color was then hoisted.

A paper was issued calling on the people to place confidence in us, and to avoid hostile movements, in which latter cases, protection was insured to them. At noon the Kwang-Chow-Foo, or Prefect, accompanied by the Hong merchants, came down, and after a long discussion with the plenipotentiary, admitted that Keshen having been degraded, and the newly appointed commissioners not having arrived, there was no government authorized to treat for peace, or make any arrangements; they confessed the truth of the reports we had heard, that the greatest consternation existed in the city, and that every person who could quit it, had done so; in fact, that it was at our mercy."

Sir J. J. G. Bremer was disposed to continue these successful operations at once, and press on to the very city of Canton; but Captain Elliot, the plenipotentiary, being desirous of trying another proclamation, offensive proceedings were suspended, and on the 6th of March, he issued the following address:—

"PEOPLE OF CANTON.

"Your city is spared, because the gracious Sovereign of Great Britain has commanded the high English officer to remember that the good and peaceful people must be tenderly considered.

"But if the high officers of the Celestial Court offer the least obstruction to the British forces in their present stations, then it will become necessary to answer force by force, and the city may suffer terrible injury."

The high officers did offer obstructions, for on the 16th of March, a flag of truce sent by Capt. Elliot with a chop to the Imperial Commissioner, was fired upon. In consequence, Capt. Herbert, of the advanced squadron, immediately proceeded to attack and capture the various forts and defences of the city.

On the 18th of March, every arrangement having been made, the whole force moved forward, the vessels, marines, and three divisions of boats from the northward of the Macao fort, and within gun-shot of the Chinese advanced batteries, engaging them for about two hours and a half, when they were silenced and taken. The frigate Modeste was then placed within 300 yards of the principal battery, and the rafts on the right bank having been cut through, while the war junks were engaged by other vessels, the battery was stormed and captured by a body of marines, notwithstanding the most determined resistance on the part of the Tartar troops. From this battery the vessels and flotilla moved forward, and carried the other defences in succession, amounting in the whole to 123 guns. This attack was completed with a loss of nine Englishmen wounded; of the Chinese loss we have no estimate.

Previously to this last attack, a part of the British force, with the steamer Nemesis, had forced the inner passage called Broadway river, from Macao to Whampoa, which had never before been passed by Europeans, and was believed by the Chinese to be inaccessible to them.

The forcing of this passage is a singular illustration of the power of steam vessels of war; and the account given of it exemplifies in a singular manner, the passiveness of the Chinese people in the present contest. Capt. Elliot having represented to the senior officer in Macao-road the great advantages likely to accrue by this step, his views were at once acceded to by Captain Scott, and preparations made for carrying it into effect. At 3 A. M., on the 13th, the Nemesis, with the boats of the Samarang in tow, weighed from Macao-roads, and proceeded over the flats between Twee-lieu-shaw and Toi-koke-tou Islands, to the Broadway river, 8 A. M. they came in sight of Motow Fort, and the steamer having taken up an enfilading position, where not a gun of the enemy could bear upon her, opened her fire, whilst the boats proceeded to the attack; on their approach the Chinese abandoned the place; thirteen guns were found mounted, which were completely destroyed, the buildings set fire to, and a train laid to the magazine, which exploded before the boats returned to the Nemesis. On reaching Point How-Hoak-Tow, the river is divided into two channels; that to the right takes a sudden sharp turn, and becomes very contracted in its breadth; here they discovered Taiyat-kok, a field battery (very recently constructed), of fourteen guns, very strongly posted on a rising ground, situated on the left bank of the river (surrounded by overflowed paddy fields,) which enfiladed the whole line of the reach leading up to it; as the steamer appeared round the point, the enemy opened an animated fire upon her, which was smartly kept up; it was most effectually returned by the two guns from the Nemesis, which vessel threw her shot, shells, and rockets, admirably; the boats advanced under the slight cover of the bank, but before a landing could be effected on their flank, they abandoned the guns, when possession of the work was taken by a narrow pathway, which could only be passed in single files; the guns were destroyed, and the buildings and materiel consigned to the flames and blown up; meanwhile a detachment of the boats had gone over to the opposite side of the river, and destroyed a military station or depot.

At noon, nine war junks were seen over the land, and chase was immediately given. On entering the reach in which they were, Capt. Scott observed on the right bank of the river a new battery, scarcely finished, with ten embrasures, but without guns, and Hochang fort close to it, well built of granite, surrounded by a wet ditch, and mounting fourteen guns and six ginjalls. Abreast of these (which they flanked) the river was strongly staked across, through the centre of which, the last junk had passed, and the opening again secured. The enemy immediately commenced firing from the fort and junks, which was replied to by the Nemesis with good effect, while the boats opened a passage through the stakes, and dashed on to the attack of Hochang and the junks. The former was secured by wading the ditch and entering the embrasures, and the latter, seeing the fall of the fort, became so panic-stricken, that on the approach of the boats, seven got on shore, their crews jumping overboard immediately they grounded, two junks alone

escaping. Lieutenant Bower, in pushing to cut them off, discovered Fiesha-kok, on the left bank of the river, within one hundred yards of the advanced junk aground, which fort, mounting seven guns, opened a heavy fire of grape upon him ; observing that the junks were abandoned by their crews, he turned all his attention to his new opponents, whom he drove out of their strong hold by passing through the adjoining town and taking them in reverse.

In the mean time Mr. Hall dexterously managed in getting his vessel through the centre passage of the stakes, which fortunately was just sufficiently wide to admit of her passage. At thirty minutes after 2, the boats returned to the steamer, after having destroyed all the guns, and set fire to Fiesha-kok fort and the seven war junks, which all blew up within a quarter of an hour ; chase to the two escaped junks recommenced, during which they passed two dismantled forts ; at 4 P.M., they arrived off the large provincial town of Hiangshan, one of the large war-junks preceding them about a mile ; the dense population thickly crowded the banks, boats, junks, house-tops, the large pagoda, and surrounding hills ; both sides of the river were packed by the trading craft of the country in the closest possible order, the centre of the river, which is very narrow here, having merely sufficient space to allow the steamer's paddle-boxes to pass clear of the junks moored to its banks ; not the slightest fear was manifested by the people, but several mandarins took to their boats and followed the war-junks, which were closed so rapidly that one of them ran on shore, the crew jumping overboard ; the steamer brought up abreast of her and destroyed her ; while thus employed, the fort of Sheang-chap, within 200 yards, (but hidden by some intervening trees,) opened its fire, which was instantly returned, and the boats, with the marines of the Samarang, stormed it ; its eight guns were destroyed ; a number of Chinese troops coming down towards the fort, made it necessary to fire two or three shot, which, going directly in the midst of the body, scattered and dispersed them in an instant. At 6 P. M., the junk and fort were fired, and the steamer passed on into a narrow shallow channel, scarcely more than the breadth of a canal, when she anchored head and stern for the night.

At daylight, on the morning of the 14th, they weighed and proceeded up the river in the steamer's draught of water, and not broader than her own length, grounding occasionally on both sides ; at 7-50, arrived at the large village of Hong-how, with a fort of the same name at the upper part, which flanked a strong and broad line of stakes twenty feet wide, completely across the river, filled up in the centre by large sunken junks laden with stones ; on discovering the fort the Nemesis opened fire, which was instantly returned by the enemy ; as in all the preceding actions they fled the moment the boats landed to attack them ; they had evidently expected to be assailed on the opposite side to that by which the Nemesis approached, the walls being piled up with sand-bags outside in that direction ; nine guns were destroyed here, and the fort blown up. After the Nemesis had made good her passage through

the stakes, which was effected after four hours' incessant labor, assisted by the natives, who flocked on board and around in great numbers after the firing had ceased, all apparently anxious to aid in destroying the stakes.

At 4 P. M., they arrived off a military station; a shot was fired into the principal building, which drove out the garrison, who had screened themselves in it; the boats were then sent on shore, and the whole establishment, together with a mandarin boat, mounting one nine-pounder and two ginjalls, were destroyed, and at 6, the steamer anchored for the night.

At daylight, on the 15th, the Nemesis continued her course upwards, and at 7-30, arrived off the large village Zamchow, under the banks of which, a number of soldiers with matchlocks were descried, endeavoring to conceal themselves, upon whom a fire of musketry was opened, which dispersed all those who were unhurt in less than a minute.

On moving up to Tsgnei, a large town on the left bank of the river, three forts were passed, all dismantled and abandoned: the Custom-house of the latter place was destroyed, as well as a war-junk mounting seven guns, which the crew had quitted on the approach of the steamer. On proceeding up to Whampoa, three more dismantled forts were observed, and at 4 P. M., the Nemesis came to in that anchorage, having (in conjunction with the boats) destroyed five forts, one battery, two military stations, and nine war-junks, in which were one hundred and fifteen guns and eight ginjalls.

CULTIVATION OF COFFEE IN LIBERIA.

We lately visited the coffee lots of the Hon. S. Benedict, of this place, and were much pleased to find that this gentleman is setting a praiseworthy example to all Liberians, in his successful labors at cultivating the coffee tree. The judge has in all, seven and a fourth acres of land devoted to a coffee plantation. He is the only person in this town or county, who has paid much attention to the subject; and we are heartily glad to find that he is likely to be crowned with abundant success. On one lot we counted seventy trees, averaging ten feet in height; on another, one hundred trees, averaging six feet in height; and on another, four hundred trees, averaging seven feet in height. The above trees are all bearing at this time; many of them are literally loaded down with coffee. There is also another lot of 5,460 younger trees, averaging two years old, which have been recently transplanted, and are doing well; these will commence to produce in about two years. This last lot of trees was not raised from the seed, but

gathered from the surrounding woods, where they grow wild, (for the coffee tree is indigenous here,) at an average expense of *one cent* for every tree.

The coffee tree is long-lived, and grows to the height of twenty feet and upward ; and the coffee produced in Liberia, is decidedly superior to any that we have ever known produced in any other land. This climate and soil is the finest in the world for the cultivation of coffee. If others would go and do likewise, in a few years Monrovia would export annually her tens of thousands of coffee.—*Liberia (Africa) Luminary.*

GREAT ERUPTION OF THE VOLCANO OF KILAUEA.

For several years past the great crater of Kilauea has been rapidly filling up, by the rising of the superincumbent crust, and by the frequent gushing forth of the molten sea below. In this manner the great basin below the black ledge, which has been computed from three to five hundred feet deep, was long since filled up by the ejection and cooling of successive masses of the fiery fluid. These silent eruptions continued to occur at intervals, until the black ledge was repeatedly overflowed, each cooling, and forming a new layer, from two feet thick and upwards, until the whole area of the crater was filled up, at least fifty feet above the original black ledge, and thus reducing the whole depth of the crater to less than nine hundred feet. This process of filling up continued till the latter part of May, 1840, when, as many natives testify, the whole area of the crater became one entire sea of igneous matter, raging like old ocean when lashed into fury by a tempest. For several days the fires raged with fearful intensity, exhibiting a scene awfully terrific. The infuriated waves sent up infernal sounds, and dashed with such maddening energy against the sides of the awful caldron, as to shake the solid earth above, and to detach huge masses of overhanging rocks, which, leaving their ancient beds, plunged into the fiery gulf below. So terrific was the scene, that no one dared to approach near it, and travellers on the main road, which lay along the verge of the crater, feeling the ground tremble beneath their feet, fled and passed by at a distance. Every appearance, however, of the crater, confirms these reports. Every thing within the caldron is new. Not a particle of lava remains as it was when I last visited it. All has been melted down and re-cast. All is new. The whole appears like a raging sea, whose waves had been suddenly solidified while in the most violent agitation.

On the 30th of May, the people of Puna observed the appearance of smoke and fire in the interior, a mountainous and desolate region of that district. Thinking that the fire might be the burning of some

jungle, they took little notice of it until the next day, Sabbath, when the meetings in the different villages were thrown into confusion by sudden and grand exhibitions of fire, on a scale so large and fearful, as to leave them no room to doubt the cause of the phenomenon. The fire augmented during the day and night; but it did not seem to flow off rapidly in any direction. All were in consternation, as it was expected that the molten flood would pour itself down from its height of 4,000 feet to the coast, and no one knew to what point it would flow, or what devastation would attend its fiery course. On Monday, June 1st, the stream began to flow off in a northeasterly direction, and on the following Wednesday, June 3d, at evening, the burning river reached the sea, having averaged about half a mile an hour in its progress. The rapidity of the flow was very unequal, being modified by the inequalities of the surface over which the stream passed. Sometimes it is supposed to have moved five miles an hour, and at other times, owing to obstructions, making no apparent progress, except in filling up deep valleys, and in swelling over or breaking away hills and precipices.

The eruption is first visible in an ancient wooded crater, about 400 feet deep, and probably 8 miles east from Kilauea. The region being uninhabited and covered with a thicket, it was some time before the place was discovered, and for a long time it was thought inaccessible. Foreigners have attempted it; no one except myself has reached the spot. From Kilauea to this place, the lava flows in a subterranean gallery, probably at the depth of a thousand feet, but its course can be distinctly traced all the way, by the rending of the crust of the earth into innumerable fissures, and by the emission of smoke, steam, and gases. The eruption in this old crater is small, and from this place the stream disappears again for the distance of a mile or two, when the lava again gushes up and spreads over an area of about 50 acres. Again it passes under ground for two or three miles, when it reappears in another old wooded crater, consuming the forest, and partly filling up the basin. Once more it disappears, and flowing in a subterranean channel, cracks and breaks the earth, opening fissures from six inches to ten or twelve feet in width, and sometimes splitting the trunk of a tree so exactly, that its legs stand astride at the fissure. At some places it is impossible to trace the subterranean stream, on account of the impenetrable thicket under which it passes. After flowing under ground several miles, perhaps six or eight, it again broke out like an overwhelming flood, and sweeping forest, hamlet, plantation, and every thing before it, rolled down with resistless energy to the sea, where, leaping a precipice of 40 or 50 feet, it poured itself in one vast cataract of fire into the deep below, with loud detonations, fearful hissings, and a thousand unearthly and indescribable sounds. It appeared like a river of fused minerals, of the breadth and depth of Niagara, and of a deep gory red, falling, in one blazoned sheet, one raging torrent, into the ocean! The scene, as described by eye-witnesses, was terribly sublime. The atmosphere in all directions was

filled with ashes, spray, gases, etc.; while the burning lava, as it fell into the water, was shivered into millions of minute particles, and, being thrown back into the air, fell in showers of sand on all the surrounding country. The coast was extended into the sea for a quarter of a mile, and a pretty sand-beach and a new cape were formed. Three hills of scoria and sand were also formed in the sea, the lowest about 200, and the highest about 300 feet.

For three weeks, this terrific river disgorged itself into the sea with little abatement. Multitudes of fishes were killed, and the waters of the ocean were heated for 20 miles along the coast. The breadth of the stream, where it fell into the sea, is about half a mile, but inland it varies from one to four or five miles in width, conforming itself, like a river, to the face of the country over which it flowed. The depth of the stream will probably vary from 10 to 200 feet, according to the inequalities of the surface over which it passed. During the flow, night was converted into day on all eastern Hawaii. The light rose and spread like the morning upon the mountains, and its glare was seen on the opposite side of the island. It was also distinctly visible for more than 100 miles at sea; and at the distance of 40 miles, fine print could be read at midnight. The brilliancy of the light was like a blazing firmament, and the scene is said to have been one of unrivalled sublimity.

The whole course of the stream from Kilauea to the sea, is about 40 miles. Its mouth is about 25 miles from Hilo station. The ground over which it flowed descends at the rate of 100 feet to the mile. The crust is now cooled, and may be traversed with care, though scalding steam, pungent gases, and smoke, are still emitted in many places.

In some places, the molten stream parted and flowed in separate channels for a considerable distance, and then reuniting, formed islands of various sizes, from one to fifty acres, with trees still standing, but seared and blighted by the intense heat. On the outer edges of the lava, where the stream was more shallow and the heat less vehement, and where of course the liquid mass cooled soonest, the trees were mowed down like grass before the scythe, and left charred, crisped, smouldering, and only half consumed. As the lava flowed around the trunks of large trees on the outskirts of the stream, the melted mass stiffened and consolidated before the trunk was consumed, and when this was effected, the top of the tree fell, and lay unconsumed on the crust, while the hole which marked the place of the trunk, remains almost as smooth and perfect as the calibre of a cannon. These holes are innumerable, and were found to measure from 10 to 40 feet deep; but as has been said, they are in the more shallow parts of the lava, the trees being entirely consumed where it was deeper. During the flow of this eruption, the great crater of Kilauea sunk about 300 feet, and her fires became nearly extinct, one lake only out of many being left active in this mighty caldron. This, with other facts which have been named, demonstrates that the eruption was the disgorgement of the fires of Kilauea. The open lake in the old crater is at present in-

tensely active, and the fires are increasing, as is evident from the glare visible, and from the testimony of visitors.

During the early part of the eruption, slight and repeated shocks of earthquake were felt, for several successive days, near the scene of action. These shocks were not unnoticed at Hilo.

Through the directing hand of a kind Providence, no lives were lost, and but little property was consumed during this amazing flood of fiery ruin. The stream passed over an almost uninhabited desert. A few little hamlets were consumed, and a few plantations were destroyed; but the inhabitants, forewarned, fled and escaped.

While the stream was flowing, it might be approached within a few yards on the windward side, while at the leeward no one could live within the distance of many miles, on account of the smoke, the impregnation of the atmosphere with pungent and deadly gases, and the fiery showers which were constantly descending, and destroying all vegetable life. During the progress of the descending stream, it would often fall into some fissure, and forcing itself into apertures and under massive rocks, and even hillocks and extended plats of ground, and lifting them from their ancient beds, bear them, with all their superincumbent mass of soil, trees, etc., on its viscous and livid bosom, like a raft on the water. When the fused mass was sluggish, it had a gory appearance like clotted cloud, and when it was active, it resembled fresh and clotted blood, mingled and thrown into violent agitation. Sometimes the flowing lava would find a subterranean gallery, diverging at right angles from the main channel, and pressing into it, would flow off unobserved, till meeting with some obstruction in its dark passage, when, by its expansive force, it would raise the crust of the earth into a dome-like hill of 15 or 20 feet in height, and then bursting this shell, pour itself out in a fiery torrent around.

—*Missionary Herald.*

CHRONOLOGY.

FOREIGN.

BUENOS AIRES. The French claims on the Argentine Republic, have been finally adjusted, by the latter government agreeing to pay one hundred and sixty-three thousand dollars; twenty-five thousand down, and the remainder in monthly instalments of four thousand dollars.

<p>RIO JANEIRO, April 22. The new Imperial Cabinet is thus constituted:</p>
<p>Navy;—Marquis de Pavanaqua.</p>
<p>War;—Jose Clemente Pereira.</p>
<p>Interior;—Candido Jose d'Aranjo Viana.</p>
<p>Justice;—Pauline Jose Soares de Sesa.</p>
<p>Treasury;—Miguel Calmon du Peir e Almeda.</p>

Foreign;—Aureliana de Saega Oliveira Continho.

THE FRENCH ARMY. La Presse publishes the following statement of the effective force of the French army on the 1st of March, in the present year, as stated by Baron Dupin, in his report to the Chamber of Peers:—

	Men.	Horses.
Staff,	3,879	318
Gendarmerie,	14,673	10,316
Infantry,	291,408	516
Cavalry,	55,531	49,016
Artillery,	35,410	24,005
Engineers,	8,753	1,130
Military Equipages,	6,729	5,539
Veterans,	2,789	
Administrative service in Algiers,	1,426	207
	425,909	91,978
Auxiliaries and native troops in Algiers,	1,321	1,840

SYRIA. May. The internal troubles in this country do not seem to be at rest; the conduct of the Turkish Pasha at Damascus, had excited the strongest indignation, and in some districts, the mountainers had driven away the Turkish troops. A report, current in Constantinople, that some of the troops lately sent to El Arish had deserted and taken refuge in Syria, seemed to have some connexion with these movements. The plague was raging at Damietta.

CANDIA. May 1. The insurrection against the Turkish forces, which has been some time in progress, still continues.

A letter of this date states that there are 16,000 insurgents under arms.

Near the close of May, the Turkish officer, Tahir Pacha, landed 5,000 men, and a strong park of artillery. The European Consuls, in vain, endeavored to persuade the insurgents to submission. One of the insurgents has been sent on a mission to the King of Greece, with an offer of the sovereignty of Candia; notwithstanding the blockade, men and arms continue to be received by the revolted inhabitants.

Our last accounts from Candia are to June 10, at which time the insurrection was still in progress, apparently with considerable success. Tahir Pasha's attempts at negotiation had entirely failed, and the Candiot leaders appeared to have some hopes of foreign assistance, notwithstanding the explicit declaration of the European Consuls, that their governments

would render none. The insurrection excited great sympathy in Greece.

THE PUNJAB. Twenty thousand British troops have been despatched to the Punjab, under General Lumley; it is said that they are to support Shere Singh. Up to the 17th of April, nothing definite had occurred, though the whole country was still in the greatest confusion.

MEXICO. May 20. Advices to this date inform us that Sebastian Camacho had been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.

YUCATAN. The following is the latest intelligence from Yucatan, a province which has lately declared its independence of Mexico. The statistics which follow are interesting.

The Constitution was promulgated on the 16th May.

Governor Mendez having asked and obtained permission from the Council to remove to Campeachy for the purpose of looking after his commercial interests, Miguel Barbachano had succeeded to the Executive power.

The election for members of the Legislative Assembly was held on Sunday, the 6th of June. It was quietly conducted. With reference to this election, the population of the different departments and districts required to be known, and is thus stated in one of the papers before us. In Merida, a new census was taken—how it was in the other districts, we are unable to say.

DEPARTMENT OF MERIDA.

Districts.	Inhabitants.
Merida,	48,265
Ticul,	27,702
Maxcanu,	19,640
Tecoj,	26,651
<i>Department of Izamel.</i>	
Izamel,	38,426
Motul,	30,929
<i>Department of Valladolid.</i>	
Valladolid,	50,572
Tizimin,	26,237
Espita,	18,152
<i>Department of Tekax.</i>	
Tekax,	33,740
Yaxcaba,	33,973
Peto,	47,559
Bacalar,	3,000
<i>Department of Campeachy.</i>	
Campeachy,	21,963
Champoton,	6,869
Carmen,	4,591
Hechelchacan,	20,601

Hopelchen,	20,530
Total,	479,400
The city of Merida contains a population of 25,589.	

PERU. The following letter from Peru discloses the present state of affairs in that unhappy province, and the defeat of Vivanco's rebellion, [see Mon. Chron. p. 233.] against the government of Gamarra, who may, we believe, be characterized as one of the most ignorant and degraded chiefs, even of the South American States. Some accounts state that Vivanco had deserted to Gamarra, but these do not appear, from the latest and most authentic accounts received, to be confirmed. By a decree of the 28th of April, Gamarra's dictatorial powers were continued for two months. This is a mere farce; in fact, he is a perpetual dictator, at least till some one can turn him out.

LIMA, May 6, 1841.

"Col. Vivanco proclaimed himself Supreme Chief of Peru in Arequipa, on the 4th of January, and was immediately recognized by the department of Cusco and Puno, thus giving him possession of about half the country, and more than half of the army; but on the 16th January, Gen. San Roman, who joined in the revolution, and was made Prefect of Cusco, with the garrison of that city, amounting to 1000 men, declared against Vivanco, which gave the superiority to the government, notwithstanding Vivanco succeeded in increasing his remaining force to 2600 men, with which he occupied Arequipa, when General Castilla, with some troops from Lima and the garrison of Cusco, in all about 2,000 men, advanced upon that city, and took up a strong position at Cachamarcia, in which he was attacked on the 25th March by Vivanco, and completely routed, without the loss of many lives on either side; but the loss in prisoners and desertion, reduced Castilla's force to 800 men. Col. Vivanco, after adding the prisoners to his army, found himself at the head of nearly 3500 men, which he divided into two divisions, one of which, under the command of Col. Ugarteche, consisting of 2100, marched into the interior, with the view to prevent the retreat of Castilla upon Cusco, while the other, commanded by Vivanco in person, marched towards Arica, to oppose the President, (Gen. Gamarra,) who embarked at Callao on the 20th of March, with 1000 men. The di-

vision of Ugarteche arrived at Cuevillas, about 30 leagues from Arequipa on the Cusco road, on the morning of the 30th of March; as he was preparing to march, Castilla with his 800 men, appeared in sight, and finding his retreat cut off, attacked and routed Ugarteche, whose whole division dispersed, having been completely surprised in the open day. Col. Vivanco, on being informed of this disaster, abandoned his troops and fled for safety to Bolivia; soon after which, his men dispersed, leaving Gamarra again in quiet possession of the country.

"Rumor says that Gen. Gamarra intends to declare war against Bolivia, and march into that country, with all the force he can collect together in the South. I cannot believe he will attempt such a hazardous enterprise."

Meanwhile Santa Cruz, the former president of the republic, exiled by Gamarra, who acts by Chilian influence throughout, having prepared his forces in Equator, was pressing vigorously his revolt in the north. On the 8th of May, 150 men under the command of a colonel, landed at Payta, and marched to Paura, the government of which having orders to withdraw in case of such an event, they took quiet possession. Santa Cruz remained at Guayaquil, superintending the enterprise. To meet this revolt, on the 20th of May, 300 government troops were embarked at Callao, on board a large transport, and the Peruvian brig of war Constitution, and sailed the same day for Lambiyque, the seaport of Truxillo, where they would join 300 more troops, and march upon the insurgents.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 20. The news from the provinces becomes every day more alarming. The insurrectionary movements in Bulgaria, were the result of an extensive conspiracy in all the Turkish European provinces, which prematurely declared itself in consequence of the acts of violence committed by the Albanians at Nissa. Tranquillity was far from being re-established. Albanian deserters continued to overrun the neighborhood of Roulchouk, committing the greatest excesses. The same scenes have occurred at Trebizond, where the population, consisting of Christians, Turks and Jews, immediately went over to the Russian territory, where they were provided with money, and promised exemption from taxes for ten years.

MADRID, May 22. The new ministry was announced as follows:

M. Gonzales, President of the Council, and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

M. Serra Y. Rull, Minister of Finance.

M. Infanta, Minister of the Interior.

M. Sin Miguel, Minister of War.

M. Garcia Gamboa, Minister of Marine.

M. Alonzo, Minister of Justice.

M. Arguelles was subsequently chosen guardian of the Infanta by a nearly unanimous vote.

The President in the Council proposed a reduction of the army and reform in finance; and on the whole, there is a better feeling.

PARIS, May 30. Darmes, the last person who has attempted the life of Louis Philippe, was decapitated, agreeably to his sentence. His behavior was firm and resigned. Owing to the precautions of government, comparatively few persons assembled, and there was no disturbance.

GIBRALTAR, June 1. Sir DAVID WILKIE, the celebrated artist, died on board the steamboat Oriental, in which he was returning to England, from Egypt.

CONSTANTINOPLE, June 1. The hattischeriff, embodying the final proposition of the Ottoman Porte to Mehemet Ali, was despatched. It grants to him

1st; The right of hereditary transmission.

2d; That of levying taxes and regulating government, independently.

3d; That of appointing officers and functionaries as high as colonel and pasha.

4th; Only one-fifth, instead of one-fourth of the glebal receipts; leaving him on a peace establishment, it is supposed, £600,000 for his privy purse.

5th; The performance of homage by proxy; and the establishment of a legation at Constantinople.

6th; The right of disciplining, dressing, and organizing his army, at will.

7th; The diminution of the arrears of tribute to a sum comparatively small.

He will, however, be compelled to reduce his army to 18,000 men, and to refrain from increasing his navy.

The hattischeriff, as stated above, was accepted by Mehemet on the 15th of June. The ultimate settlement of the tribute has not yet been announced publicly.

June 10th. A note was published in London, written by the representatives of the four Powers, Great Britain, Austria, Prussia and Russia, in reply to a communication from the Sublime Porte, calling upon them for further advice as to the terms of the firman conferring the Gov-

ernorship of Egypt upon Mehemet Ali. From this it would appear that the Representatives of the four Powers consider the subject definitively settled, and that nothing remains for Mehemet Ali, but to accept the firman, drawn up according to the recommendations of this document.

This makes explanations upon the three heads; 1st, the question of *Heredite*; 2d, the fixing of the tribute; and 3d, the military promotions. As to the first subject, they advise that the firman declare that each successive Governor of Egypt shall receive investiture from the Sultan; that he shall not be obliged to come to Constantinople to receive it, but that it shall be sent to him in Egypt.

As to the tribute, the Powers express themselves destitute of the proper data for calculation, but advise that it be stated at a fixed sum, subject to temporary revision hereafter, rather than at a proportional part of the gross revenue of Egypt. They consider the difficulty of military promotions as a slight one, giving their opinion that the appointing power remains in the sovereign will alone, and that he may extend or restrain the authority delegated to the Pasha, as experience and the necessities of the service may require. Lord Palmerston supposed that Mehemet Ali would accept a firman drawn up on these suggestions; but on this point there seems to have been some question. £40,000 was subsequently suggested at Constantinople, for the annual tribute.

On the 13th of June, a treaty was signed by the representatives of all the five powers in London, a convention which had been for some time agreed upon, rendering general to all the parties the agreement made between Great Britain and Turkey in 1809; by which the Sultan closes the straits of Dardanelles against all foreign powers, while Turkey is at peace.

LONDON, June 5. The debate on Sir Robert Peel's "want of confidence" resolutions, ended this morning, and on the division, the sense of the House proved to be against ministers, the motion being supported by a vote of 312 to 311. There were eight members absent, generally ranked as liberals, who, on this occasion, however, refused their support to either party.

On Monday, the 7th, Lord John Russell avowed his intention of advising a dissolution of Parliament, upon which, Sir Robert Peel said that he had no desire to interfere with the immediate comple-

tion of the further necessary business of the session, and should make no opposition to the supply bills. Both parties at once began an active canvass. The new Parliament was called to meet in August. The proposed changes in the corn laws, [see Mon. Chron. p 234,) formed the turning point of the electioneering on both sides.

CANADA.—The first assembly of the Legislature of the United Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, met at Kingston, June 15. The Governor General opened the session in a very liberal speech, likely to conciliate the good will of the people, if such a thing were possible. He said, after alluding to the McLeod case, that it was the fixed determination of Her Majesty's government to protect the Canadians with the whole weight of her power; he recommended the establishment of an efficient system of legislation; stated that arrangements had been made to facilitate emigration, and to reduce the postage; that government was ready to afford liberal aid to plans for internal improvement; and that the home government would propose to Parliament to grant the guaranty of the imperial treasury for a loan of at least £1,500,000 for the benefit of the Province; that Her Majesty would appropriate a large sum for the defence of the Province, and that "her North American possessions would be maintained at all hazards."

After some debate in answer to the address was carried, 54—21, showing a majority of 33 for government. In the course of this debate, Mr. Attorney General Draper stated that "if it appeared that the Executive Council did not possess the confidence of the House, that body would resign or dissolve the House, and appeal to the people."

"Sic magnis componere parva solebant." The Council has early caught the tone of an Executive body to talk of appealing to the people from a House not six hours old.

No important business has yet been transacted in the Assembly. Long speeches appear to prevail as much there as elsewhere. The proceedings are conducted in English, though many of the members are Frenchmen. On the 16th of July, Mr. Draper gave notice that government had in contemplation an extension of the amnesty granted to persons implicated in the troubles of 1838, but that a reservation would be made of

those persons whose presence might endanger the peace of the colony.

PANAMA.—On the 18th of June the new constitution of the newly constituted "State of the Isthmus of Panama," was sworn to in public. Dr. Thomas Herrara was elected President.

June 29. The Queen of Hanover died.

June 30. The English elections for Parliament began, and continued about a fortnight. The result, after an extremely animated contest, was a Conservative majority of about 70.

CONGRESSIONAL.

CONGRESS., May 31. Mr. White, of Kentucky, was elected Speaker by the following vote:

Whole number,	221
Necessary to a choice,	111
John White had	121
Joseph Lawrence, of Pa.,	5
H. A. Wise, of Va.,	8
J. W. Jones, "	84
Scattering,	3

which election indicated an administration majority of about 50.

On the next day the President communicated his message to the two Houses.

Mr. Tyler first takes brief notice of the public bereavement, by which the powers and duties of his station devolved upon him, and submits to Congress the propriety of making such legislative provisions, that the expenses necessary for the preparations for a four years' residence in Washington, on the part of the late President, should not be permitted to burden the resources of his surviving family. He says that, whatever might have been originally his opinion, with regard to the calling of the special session, the novelty of the situation in which he found himself placed, gave him new reason to accede to the call his predecessor had given, and to feel doubly grateful at finding himself so soon surrounded by the immediate representatives of the people.

He does not go into the subject of the foreign relations, as no material change has taken place since the adjournment. He sees nothing to destroy the hope of our being able to preserve peace.

He announces the ratification of the treaty with Portugal, and says that Government indulges the hope of obtaining the claims of our citizens on Spain. He states that a correspondence has taken place between the Secretary of State and

Mr. Fox, on the subject of McLeod's indictment and imprisonment, copies of which are communicated,—as are two papers from the Secretary of State "upon subjects interesting to the commerce of the country."

He states the true American foreign policy to be, to exercise a spirit of justice in the discharge of all our international obligations, and that while we should be at all times prepared to vindicate the national honor, our most earnest desire should be to maintain an unbroken peace.

He takes occasion to express his confidence that there is no danger to our institutions in the extension of the Federal Government over all our possessions, and his belief that the balance between the powers granted and reserved in the Constitution, to the States, may be entirely preserved.

He gives a short account of the state of the Treasury, showing that the anticipated demands upon it this year will be about twenty-seven millions, while there are but about fourteen millions and a half to meet them. To meet this probable deficit of eleven millions and a half, he advises some temporary provision, until the amount can be absorbed by the expected excess of revenue.

He expresses his opinion that the "Compromise Act" of 1833 should not be disturbed. He conceives that our surest hope for prosperity is in a fixed and permanent policy, in relation to the revenue.

He next takes up that subject which has been perhaps looked for with the greatest interest; the fiscal agent of the Government. The necessity of some such agent he urges in a brief but stringent argument. He cautions Congress to guard whatever such agent shall be framed, with sufficient restrictions against abuse from those who shall administer it.

He considers Gen. Jackson's veto of the re-charter of the United States Bank, to have been fully sustained by the popular voice. He thinks it safe also to assert that the State Bank deposit system had met with the unqualified condemnation of most of its early advocates, and of popular sentiment generally. He considers the Sub-Treasury system to have met with an equally signal condemnation, from the recent Presidential election. What is now the deliberate judgment of the people on the whole subject, he has no means of judging, but through their representatives, and he therefore submits the whole question to them, stating his readiness to concur with them in

any system they may propose, not conflicting, in his view, with the Constitution, or the prosperity of the country.

He suggests the adoption of some measure to correct the unlimited creation of State Banks. This can only be brought about by a compact between the States, which they cannot enter upon without the consent of Congress, which he recommends should be tendered to them in advance of any action on their part, as an inducement to such action.

He suggests that other measures may be adopted auxiliary, in restoring prosperity, to the new financial agent. Among these, an efficient aid to the States would be a distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, provided this do not require an alteration of the revenue provisions of the act of 1833. While he "repudiates as a measure founded on error, and wanting constitutional sanction, the slightest approach to an assumption by the Federal Government of the debts of the States," he sees much to recommend the distribution just adverted to. The mode of such distribution he leaves to Congress to determine, suggesting for their consideration the question, whether it should be made directly to the States, in the proceeds of the sales, or in the form of profits of any fiscal agency, having those proceeds as its basis. He does not conceive that this distribution need prevent the passage of any such pre-emption laws as might now or hereafter prove desirable.

He calls attention to an accompanying communication from the Secretary of War, developing gross enormities in connexion with the Indian treaties, as well as in the expenditures for the removal and subsistence of the Indians. An appropriation of \$200,000 will be needed to set these irregularities right.

He expresses the conviction that no fear need be felt of our being left behind other nations from the change in maritime warfare likely to be made by the use of steam vessels, if the enterprise of our citizens receive sufficient encouragement from Government. But he urges, nevertheless, the necessity of placing in perfect condition our harbor defences.

He requests the immediate attention of Congress to the Navy Pension Fund. The deficit in that department is about \$122,000.

The re-arrangement of the Navy System is deferred to the regular session.

He calls upon Congress to come to the relief of the Post Office Department. Its

present deficit is not less than \$500,000. If this be furnished by an appropriation, it is believed that the future operations of that department can be carried on without calling on Congress.

He alludes to the delicate nature of the appointing power, and says he shall cheerfully look to the "advice and consent" of the Senate, and shall early invite attention to Congress to such measures as may be best adapted to regulate and control the Executive power in this respect.

He announces, also, that he shall call the attention of Congress to the necessity of strengthening the statutory prohibitions against the slave trade.

He concludes by calling the attention of Congress to the affairs of the District. He then expresses his happiness in committing the great interests of the nation to their hands, his pleasure in believing that the prevailing spirit is that of union and harmony, and his conviction that the great body of the people are ready to support those whose efforts arise from a disinterested desire to promote their happiness, and administer the Government for its true and legitimate purposes.

At the very commencement of the session, in the House, on the first, and in the Senate on the second day, a question was mooted as to the title of the acting President; and both branches decided at once by large majorities, that he should be called the "President of the United States," and not the "Vice President." A subsidiary question which has been raised as to the station of the President pro tem. of the Senate, whether he were not Vice President of the U. States, was also in effect decided by Mr. Southard's voting in the Senate on the question we have just mentioned, as a Senator from New Jersey. Had he been, or considered himself, Vice President of the United States, he would not have been able to vote as a Senator.

A committee of one from each State was appointed, early in the session, to express the national sensibility to the event of the decease of the late President. This committee subsequently reported a series of appropriate resolutions, and a bill, for the relief of the President's widow, providing for that purpose, — dollars. The House filled the blank with \$25,000, and passed the bill by a vote of 122—66, nearly a party vote; it afterwards passed the Senate in a similar manner.

The question of Anti Slavery petitions was early introduced into the House. On

the first day of the session, a motion having been made to adopt the rules and orders of the last House, Mr. Ex-President Adams moved to amend them by striking out the 21st Rule, which lays on the table without debate the question of receiving all Anti-Slavery petitions. On this proposition, a long and angry debate took place, lasting several days; we have no inclination to follow its disgraceful and ridiculous details; it was formally put an end to by a proposition from the Committee on Rules, that during this session, no petition should be presented on any subject not relating to the subjects of the Message, and that petitions on all other subjects should be considered as objected to, and the question of their reception should lie upon the table. These propositions were accepted by the House on the 12th day of the month. On the 14th, however, after a long speech by Mr. Wise, of Va., the House reconsidered the vote by which it had agreed to act under the rules of the last session, and was once more afloat; but on the 16th of June, after three days more of angry debate, it settled the question on this basis.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury was presented on the 4th of June. It appeared from that document, that

The receipts of government for 1840, from all sources, including Treasury notes, and the balance of the last year, were,	-	\$28,850,820 44
The expenditures for all objects, were,	-	\$27,863,475 41
Balance Jan. 1, 1841,		987,345 03
From Jan. 1, to March 4, 1841, the receipts were, including the above balance, (say)	-	\$5,199,855 10
The expenditures were,		4,627,166 64
Balance, March 4, 1841,		572,718 46
The balance of outstanding appropriations for all purposes, March 4, was		\$33,429,616 50
Of which are required for this year's service,	-	\$24,210,000 00
The War Department requires of additional appropriations,	-	2,521,336 98
Making	-	\$26,731,336 98
To meet these demands, the actual and estimated means amount to	-	\$20,730,395 84

Leaving unprovided for this year's service,

In addition to this, there will be received in pay-of public dues this year and next, Treasury notes, amounting to

6,000,941 14

6,087,274 04

Making an aggregate deficit of

\$12,088,215 18

To which Mr. Ewing adds, as a fund to be necessarily kept on hand at the various depositories, premising that while a power to issue Treasury notes exists, \$1,000,000 is sufficient.

Grand total of deficit, \$16,088,215 18

By another calculation he estimates that by the 31st of August, the deficit will be

The report proceeds to show that on the 1st January, 1837, the available means in the Treasury were

Adding to which, the debts due to government, arising from other sources than ordinary revenue, and the amounts of the Treasury note issues,

4,000,000 00

9,251,388 30

\$17,100,473 26

9,124,747 00

We have a total of extraordinary means, \$31,882,732 66

The balance in Treasury the 4th of March, 1841, being

572,718 46

It appears that in the last four years and a quarter, the expenditures had been pushed beyond the revenue to the amount of \$31,310,014 20

Previously to 1837, for twenty-one years, the revenue had constantly exceeded the expenditures.

It appears hence that the revenue has not proved sufficient to meet the expenditures, while a national debt has been contracted. The Secretary invites Congress to take early measures to prevent its further augmentation, and suggests a 20 per cent. duty on all articles now admitted free, except gold and silver, while he makes the same recommendation as the President, to abstain from all interference with the compromise act. He also recommends the funding of the debt,

preferring a term of from five to eight years. The remainder of the report is occupied by an argument in favor of a National Bank, to conduct the fiscal concerns of Government, and the necessity of repealing the Sub-Treasury act.

After a debate of two days, turning principally on the consistency of the two political parties, in their present views of the State Bank and Sub-Treasury scheme, a bill passed the Senate on the 9th, repealing the Sub Treasury act, and the State Bank act, of 1836, thus leaving the public money under the control of the Executive, till a new scheme could be brought into operation.

On the 7th of the month, a resolution passed unanimously in the Senate, requesting the Secretary to present to Congress with as little delay as possible, a plan for a Bank or Fiscal Agent, such as should best be adapted to avoid constitutional objections, produce the happiest results, and confer lasting benefits on the community.

Mr. Ewing accordingly on June 12th, presented a plan for a Bank and Fiscal Agent, accompanied by a bill. Its main features were

A mother Bank in the District of Columbia;

Separate incorporations of the Branches by the States;

A capital of \$30,000,000, one-fifth subscribed by the U. States;

A subscription of the amount of the fourth instalment of the surplus revenue due to the States, to stand in their name, or permission to the States to take stock to the aggregate of \$10,000,000.

The creation of \$6,000,000 in 5 per cent. stock of the U. States, redeemable after fifteen years, to pay the government subscription;

If Congress refuse the States the power of taking stock, that government should take \$10,000,000.

A board of seven Directors, two appointed by the Executive;

A similar board for the branches, two Directors appointed by the State in which is the Branch.

The Bank to be the fiscal agent of the general government; the deposits not to be removed but by law; to perform all the government business free of charge.

A number of provisions were added to secure the creditors of the Bank from loss, and to prevent over-banking; among them were

A limit of dividends to 6 per cent., to be made up subsequently, if deficient in

any year, the excess of surplus over \$2,000,000, to be paid to the U. S. States treasury;

A limit of Debts to an excess of \$20,000,000 over deposits. Debts due to the bank not to exceed 175 per cent. of the capital; and no loan to be made when the circulation exceeds three times the specie in hand;

A prohibition from dealing in any thing but coin, bullion, promissory notes, and domestic bills of exchange;

And many similar articles.

It was understood that several of the features of this plan originated in a desire in the Cabinet to present such a project, as would meet the constitutional views of the President. Holding the peculiarities of what has been termed the Virginian school in politics, Mr. Tyler had, or was supposed to have, doubts, as to the constitutionality of the old United States Bank. Mr. Ewing's proposition was so framed, as to avoid encountering these doubts. Congress had an undoubted right, even according to the Virginia doctrine, to charter any institution in the District of Columbia, and of course, that institution might create branches wherever the States chose to charter them. Such a project, however, could not but restrict considerably the powers of the new institution, by placing it in a great measure at the mercy of State legislation.

The House of Representatives showed its willingness to attend to the discussion of a National Bank project, by appointing a committee of nine to which that subject was referred.

On the 24th of June, Mr. Clay in the Senate, from the Committee of Finance, reported a new plan of a National Bank. In this plan, the proposal of the Secretary received many important modifications. It gave power to establish branches without the consent of the State Legislatures; it changed the restriction on dividends from six to seven per cent.; while it retained the location of the parent bank in the District of Columbia, it deprived that establishment of the power of making discounts or loans, excepting loans to government, authorized by express law, while the principal banking operations were transferred to the branches; it proposed a prospective increase of capital to \$50,000,000; and it permitted the bank to deal in foreign exchange. The prominent features of the bill were defended in a report, and it soon became the subject of earnest and able debate in the Senate. It was agreed by mutual consent, that

the friends of the bill should go through their amendments before its opponents introduced theirs. A considerable number of amendments were accordingly offered by members of the administration party. As the results of those of them which succeeded will appear in the complete bill, we do not insert them here. There was but little general argument on the main question; except what was included in the report of the committee, and the opening speech of Mr. Clay, in favor of the measure.

After the bill had been under discussion for some days, Mr. Rives, of Virginia, whose views on this subject probably assimilate as nearly to those of the President's as any one, moved an amendment, introducing the feature we have mentioned in Mr. Ewing's plan, which gave to the States the right of chartering the branches. On this resolution, the first interesting debate on the whole subject sprang up. Mr. Clay and those Senators who supported the plan of the committee on Finance, urged that the Bank proposed by the Secretary of the Treasury, depending for its branching power on the agency of the individual States, would be nothing more than an enormous district bank of the District of Columbia, while its branches would be merely State banks; that the capital of such a bank would never be taken; that if taken, the institution would be unable to accomplish the purposes of its design. They urged, moreover, that, which was of more importance, the General Government ought to assert its power to establish such a bank, if it ever intended to; that the refusal to establish it, would imply its surrender; that the establishment of the institution proposed, would add another to the list of disastrous financial experiments, and be tantamount to a relinquishment of the power which could never be resumed. They urged that the legislation of States would make the branches useless, by the taxes and other checks they would impose on them. Mr. Archer, of Va., in speaking against the amendment, declared "that not one Senator viewed the Treasury plan of a Bank with any thing but contempt; not one of those who would embrace it, were really friendly to it, they would go for it, because it was the President's plan, and for no other reason. The bank charter was urged in the Senate, not by any argument in its favor, but by *imploration*. "The Senate was implored," he said, "to support this plan, the reason why was so discreditable, that

it was kept out of sight, and only disclosed by hints dropped by the friends of the bill."

In support of the amendment, leading Senators denied that the principle contended for, of the constitutionality of a National Bank, was surrendered, but they urged that an important point was gained, the preservation of the union of the administration party; they denied that the branch banks would lose their value by coming under state control; the States might tax them without any injury, as much as they taxed their own banks, and no State would be so blind to its own interest, as to refuse the charter to a branch. If the Senate refused this amendment, it was urged that they virtually rejected the bill, as Senators, who supported the amendment, declared that the President would sign no bill which did not embody its principle.

The opponents of the amendment replied to this last argument, that if the President vetoed the bill, he ought to take the responsibility of such a measure; that it would be time enough then to frame a bill acceptable to him and his views, but that it would be ill judged in the extreme, for either House of Congress to attempt to modify its views by the supposed wishes of the Executive.

This debate was confined entirely to the administration party, the opposition reserving their interference with the bill, till it should be completed by its framers. It will be remembered, that the Senate consists of 29 Whigs, to 22 opposition members; 18 of the latter voted against Mr. Rives's amendment, and it was consequently lost by a vote of 10 to 35; 8 Whig Senators voting in its favor.

After the rejection of this amendment, the bill fell into the hands of the opposition. They were not slow to declare the utter abhorrence of it and its principles, which might have been expected from their political creed and action, for the last eight or nine years. They moved and supported amendments, for striking out the "city of Washington," in the clause locating the Bank;—substituting New Orleans, as most distant from the central government; requiring periodical reports in detail, of all the transactions of the Bank;—requiring the keeping of a list of all bills of exchange offered to the Bank;—requiring that all directions to the branches from the Mother Bank be published;—striking out the capital stock, on which proposal, Mr. Woodbury argued

at length, in defending as preferable, a scheme for such a government Bank as should use only the public deposits as the capital;—striking out the clause for a possible increase of capital; abolishing the government subscription to the Bank;—striking out the clause permitting the government to subscribe for such stock as should not be taken up by individuals, and subsequently to sell it at par;—providing that the Bank shall not go into operation till its whole capital be paid in—authorizing extra government directors for any stock owned by government, besides the \$6,000,000 provided for;—placing the affairs of the Bank in the hands of trustees, in case of a suspension of specie payments;—striking out 12 per cent. as the penalty to be paid by the Bank in case of deferring payment in specie;—striking out the provision against the establishment of any other Bank;—declaring the charter void in case of refusal to exhibit the books to Congress;—making 5 per cent. instead of 6 the interest to be received on discounts;—proposing to give the States the power of taxing the branches in the same ratio as they taxed their own banks;—confining the operations of the Bank to the purchase and sale of bills of exchange; with some others, varying from these in little but language, all of which were lost. About as many amendments proposed by members on the same side of the Senate were accepted; we do not enumerate them, as they will appear in our draft of the complete bill. The amendments which were lost were discussed in detail; the administration party argued that many of them were introduced merely in the hope of making the bill unpopular, an intention which the opposition steadfastly denied. On the 21st, the bill was laid on the table, and its printing ordered. On the same day, pending the action of the Senate, a Bank bill was reported in the House, with similar provisions to Mr. Clay's bill.

On the 24th of July the bill as amended was taken up in the Senate and debated; but as it appeared that in the form in which it stood, for reasons which we have explained, it would be lost by a majority of 1, an amendment was introduced by way of compromise, giving to the States the power of dissent to branches, while assent was pre-supposed, if they did not act on the subject at the earliest sessions of the Legislature. In this form, on the 28th of July, the bill passed the Senate,

by a vote of 26—23, one member being absent on each side.

On the 24th of June, a bill was reported in the House, for the distribution among the States in proportion to their "federal population" of the proceeds of the sales of public lands, after 10 per cent. had been deducted for the new States. The measure had been recommended by the Message, and had always been a favorite project of the administration party. It was urged in its support that it would relieve the distressed finances and credit of many of the States; that it would equalize through the country the sums annually drawn from the eastern States, for the purchase of lands at the West; that the lands were ceded to the Federal Government for purposes of general utility, which would be as well promoted by the action of individual States as by that of Congress; that so many sources of revenue were yielded by the States to the general government, that they found it difficult to meet their expenses without some such bill; that it would check any habits of profuseness in government expenditure; and that it would settle better than in any other way, the long-mooted question of the public lands. In reply it was urged that the measure was an unconstitutional surrender to the States of the funds of the general government; that it was really a scheme for the assumption of the State debts; that if the Federal Government were in debt, as was urged by administration members, it ought not be distributing its funds among its members; that the ultimate intention was a protective tariff; that the result would be a humiliation of the poor to the rich. On the 6th of July the bill was taken out of Committee of the Whole, and passed, 116—108.

This was the first important bill which passed through the House. On the last day of the debate, a new rule was passed for the facilitation of business, that any bill may be taken out of committee by a bare majority of the House, all amendments being acted upon without debate. The next day another rule was passed, restricting any member from speaking more than one hour, a rule which was afterwards rigidly enforced, to the great promotion of business, to the utmost satisfaction of the country, and the great discomfiture of Buncombe speakers in Congress.

On the 7th of July, a bill authorizing the President to borrow \$12,000,000, at

an interest not exceeding 6 per cent., for the purposes of government, to be redeemed at pleasure after eight years, was introduced into the House from the Committee on Ways and Means. It gave rise to considerable discussion as to the wants of government, and the real deficit in the treasury, together with incidental remarks on the policy which dictated this measure, at the same time with the land bill. The bill passed the House July 12 by a vote of 124—93. It subsequently passed the Senate on the 23d, by a vote of 23—20.

A bill to raise revenue by a duty of 20 per cent. on certain articles hitherto admitted free, was reported to the House by the Committee of Ways and Means, and on the 24th of July, a debate upon it began. It was advocated simply as a fiscal measure, and as one of the best nature, imposing duties on mere luxuries. It was opposed as collecting money where it was not wanted, on similar grounds to those on which the land bill was opposed. The effect produced by such an enactment, will be perceived by an inspection of the following table, showing the quantity and value of these articles imported in 1840, and the amount of the proposed duty.

	Pounds.	Value.	20 per cent.
Teas,	19,981,476	\$5,417,589	1,083,517 80
Coffee,	94,996,095	8,546,222	1,709,244 40
Cocoa,	2,026,369	161,389	32,277 80
Almonds,	2,930,089	199,863	39,972 60
Currants,	589,765	56,651	11,330 20
Prunes,	1,652,819	74,593	14,918 60
Figs,	2,023,073	102,333	20,466 60
Raisins,	18,414,047	971,449	194,289 80
Mace,	9,575	7,576	1,515 20
Nutmegs,	142,890	122,603	24,520 60
Cinnamon,	22,167	15,314	3,662 80
Cloves,	208,951	47,568	9,513 60
Pepper,	5,049,129	189,928	37,985 60
Pimento	2,264,942	121,543	24,308 60
Cassia,	647,012	49,023	9,804 60
Ginger,	59,909	5,384	1,078 80
Camphor,	164,841	62,556	12,501 20
			\$16,151,584 3,230,316 80

After some amendments, this bill passed, July 30, by a vote of 113—96.

These financial measures with some appropriation bills, are the only matters of importance which have thus far been acted upon by Congress. The attention of Congress, however, was called to some subjects in the reports of the different Executive Departments.

A general Bankrupt law, a matter which had engrossed much public attention, was not mentioned in the Message; the President however, subsequently sent to Congress a special message on

the subject, and on the 21st of July, a Bankrupt Bill was reported to the House, by the Judiciary Committee; a resolution from that Committee that no action should be taken on it at this session, was lost.

A bill with similar provisions to this was introduced in the Senate, and passed that body, 27—22, an amendment including banking corporations having first been offered and rejected, on the 23d of July.

The Secretary of War reported in his general report, that there was no material change in the disposition of the army since the last report from that department. Eight regiments, consisting of 5,057 men, were still in service in Florida. Negotiations with chiefs who pretended a desire to submit had been renewed, which had resulted in the surrender and transportation of 431 Indians; but eventually these negotiations had proved futile.

The Secretary proceeded to touch on the state of the public works, and recommended an appropriation of \$1,435,500 for those works this year, and an ultimate appropriation of \$12,186,547. After recommending some further appropriations in the Ordnance Department, he stated that \$825,637 were needed by the Pay and Quartermaster's Department, being the sum which the last Congress failed to appropriate, though included in the estimates.

He recommended appropriations for the Potomac Bridge and Red River Raft, and closed by exposing a practice which has recently prevailed in the Indian Department, of making payments of money drawn from the Treasury under appropriations, without regarding in all instances the specific object of the appropriations.

On the 21st of July, a bill was reported in the House, making provision for a committee of nine to sit in the recess, to make inquiries preparatory to a revision of the tariff. The resolution met with some opposition from strong States Rights men. These arguments had so much weight that the resolution was laid on the table on the 24th of July, by its opponents.

The Postmaster General called the attention of Congress to the alarming deficit in the funds of his Department, amounting on the 1st of January, to \$447,079, and asked whether the Department would be expected to make this deficiency good from its own resources, or whether Congress would make an appropriation in its aid from the National Treasury. He also called attention to the high

rates of most of the bids of Railroad Companies for carrying the mail.

The Secretary of the Navy in his Report, expressed his unwillingness to press the affairs of his Department before the extra session, and merely requested attention to the state of the Navy Pension Fund, which in this year would be exhausted, and to the establishment of a home squadron. Agreeable to this request a bill for such a squadron was passed in Congress.

DOMESTIC.—MISCELLANEOUS.

May 8th. The ship Susquehannah for Philadelphia, lat. 43° 20', lon. 36° 30', while running under reefed topsails, during a strong gale from the N. W., came in contact with the ship Paragon from Liverpool for Halifax. The vessels were immediately parted, by the violence of the storm, each commander supposing his own ship to be sinking. The Susquehannah however arrived safe in port; but the Paragon made water so rapidly, that at 7 P. M., sixteen hours after the accident, her crew abandoned her and were taken on board the London, of Yarmouth, which fortunately came in sight.

June 6. Great attention was excited at New Orleans, by the return of the ship Charles, which had sailed from that port on the 1st. On the 5th, early in the morning, the tow-boat Tiger fell in with her, deserted, yet with all sail set, and with several stains of blood upon the decks. There was a memorandum on her log, that she was making water rapidly, but, when the Tiger fell in with her, she had taken in but little water, and was readily pumped out; being in part lumber laden, it was impossible that she should sink. There was of course the greatest mystery attached to so singular an appearance, and strong grounds for suspicions of piracy, mutiny, or barratry. The boats of the vessel were gone, though one of them was subsequently picked up with a dog belonging to her on board, alive; and all the baggage and bedding of crew and passengers was removed.

Several expeditions were at once fitted out from New Orleans, in the hope of overtaking or surprising the supposed pirates. A few days previously, the revenue cutter had seized a small vessel on suspicion of piracy, to which attention was naturally attracted. Several camps of stragglers near the seashore were surprised, but nothing material was elicited.

One of the expeditions surprised a party of gentlemen, who were spending some days on the seashore, for the benefit of their health. By a misunderstanding, they were mistaken for pirates, and one of them was shot; a circumstance which excited the greatest regret.

The passengers and crew of the Charles subsequently arrived at Charleston, S. C. in the schr. Ann, of Portsmouth. They professed that, finding their vessel very leaky, and considering themselves in great danger, they had unanimously agreed that it was necessary to abandon her, which they had accordingly done, and found refuge on board the Louis XIV., bound for Havre. Not desiring to take so long a voyage, they subsequently transferred themselves to the schr. Ann, bound for Portsmouth. When in the Gulf stream, the Ann was struck by lightning, the captain and one of her crew killed, and her foremast seriously injured; and in consequence put in to Charleston. A judicial investigation was immediately held, but as nothing transpired against the captain or crew of the Charles, they were immediately discharged. The stains of blood were accounted for by two trifling accidents.

June 16. The steamship Columbia, from Liverpool, arrived at Boston, after a voyage of 12 days and 9½ hours, the shortest ever known.

PHILADELPHIA, June 23. The President of the Bank of the United States has given notice that an application will be made to the next legislature, for certain amendments and alterations in their charter, by changing the name of the Bank and its location; and by reducing the amount of its capital, and for such other alterations and amendments as may be deemed advisable, all of which will be set forth in their memorial. That the name shall be changed to the "State Bank of Pennsylvania," to be located in this city, and that its capital shall be reduced to a sum not exceeding fourteen millions of dollars. Legislative aid is deemed very doubtful.

June 24. POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.—The following abstract of the returns of the census of 1840, has been reported to the Senate of the United States, by the Secretary of State.

STATEMENT

Showing the aggregate in the population of the several States and Territories, and in the District of Columbia, under the last census, distinguishing the num-

ber of whites, free persons of color, and all other persons, as nearly as can be ascertained at this time.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	White Pop.	Free Blacks.	Slaves.	Total.
Maine,	500,438	1,355		501,793
N. Hamp.,	284,036	537	1	284,574
Mass.,	729,030	8,668	*1	737,699
R. Island,	105,587	3,258	5	108,830
Conn.,	301,856	8,105	17	309,948
Vermont,	291,218	730		291,948
New York,	2,378,890	50,027	4	2,428,921
N. Jersey,	351,588	21,044	674	373,308
Penn.,	1,676,115	47,854	64	1,724,033
Delaware,	58,561	16,919	2,665	78,085
Maryland,	317,717	62,020	89,485	469,232
Virginia,	740,968	49,842	448,897	1,239,797
N. Carolina,	484,870	22,732	245,817	753,419
S. Carolina,	259,084	8,276	327,038	594,398
Georgia,	407,695	2,753	280,844	691,392
Alabama,	335,185	2,039	253,532	590,756
Mississippi,	179,074	1,366	195,211	375,651
Louisiana,	153,983	24,368	165,219	344,570
Tennessee,	640,627	5,524	183,059	829,510
Kentucky,	587,542	7,309	182,072	776,923
Ohio,	1,502,122	17,342	3	1,519,467
Indiana,	678,698	7,165	3	685,866
Illinois,	472,354	3,598	331	476,183
Missouri,	323,888	1,574	58,240	388,702
Arkansas,	77,174	465	19,935	97,574
Michigan,	211,560	707		212,267
Florida Ter.	27,728	820	25,559	54,107
Wiscon. do.,	30,566	178	8	30,752
Iowa do.,	42,864	153	18	43,035
Dist. of Col.	30,657	4,361	4,694	43,712
	14,181,575	386,069	2,483,536	17,051,180
				17,051,180
La Fayette Parish, Louisiana, not included in the above,				7,832
Estimated population of Carter county, Kentucky, not included,				3,000
				17,062,012
Seamen in the service of the United States, June 1st, 1840,				6,100
Total population of the U. States,				17,068,112
* This must be an error. There has been no slave legally held as such, in Massachusetts, for many years.				
WASHINGTON, June 25. Died, Major General ALEXANDER MACOMB, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the U. States. General Macomb entered the service as a cornet of dragoons in 1799, and was in the military family of General Alexander Hamilton; he commanded at the successful battle of Plattsburg during the war of 1812; received a gold medal from Congress for his gallantry, and was appointed, by President J. Q. Adams, Commanding General of the army of the United States, in place of Gen. Brown, immediately after his decease, which took place in February, 1828. Since that period, General Macomb has discharged the duties of his office in this city, excepting				

occasional absences to the frontiers of the Union, in obedience to the calls of the service.

PENNSYLVANIA, June 25. A circular was issued from the Secretary of the Commonwealth to those of the state banks which had taken a part of the projected loan of \$3,100,000, to be taken by the banks of that State, [see Mon. Chron., p. 236,] announcing that only \$1,675,910 had been subscribed for; and inviting them to subscribe for the remainder—\$1,424,090, according to the provisions of the act.

June 29th. Gen Winfield Scott was appointed to succeed Gen. Macomb, as commander-in-chief.

INDIANA, July 1. The interest due on the bonds of this State this day was not paid. The following statement, prepared from a report of the scrip commissioners, exhibits the amount of deficiency.

The public debt of Indiana, funded and unfunded, amounts at this time to \$13,667,433. The sum required to pay the interest falling due on this debt the present year, with a deficit of \$40,000 for 1840, is \$723,371 65. Of this sum, the State has been able to realize, from ordinary resources, \$195,000, leaving an unprovided balance of \$528,371 65. This interest falls due semi-annually, and the recent protest of Indiana Bonds, was occasioned by the failure of the State to pay the July instalment, of rising \$250,000.

July 5. The anniversary of the Declaration of Independence was very generally celebrated through the country, the 4th falling on Sunday. In many quarters, the newly organized Temperance Societies took a leading part in the ceremonies of the day.

Sr. LOUIS, July 9. The four negroes sentenced for murder and arson, [see Mon. Chron., p. 235,] were executed in presence of a large number of spectators.

BOSTON, July 10. It had been understood that the Hon. Judge Davis, who has held the office of District Judge, in the U. S. Court in this District for 40 years, would retire from office this day. He was addressed by the Hon. Franklin Dexter, District Attorney, in behalf of the Suffolk bar, who had made him their organ to communicate to Judge Davis their high sense of the importance of his judicial labors, and their heartfelt wishes that he might find in retirement that dignified repose, which forms the appropriate close of a long and useful life, and to bid him an affectionate farewell.

Mr. Dexter performed the duty in a

neat and appropriate manner, adding to the resolution of the Bar, a few words indicative of the high estimation in which they held Judge Davis's character and labors, in the difficult duties he has so long performed.

In reply, Judge Davis thanked the Bar for their attention, and reciprocated their good wishes; and went into some interesting statements of the history of the Suffolk Bar, and the Court, since he was called to the Bench. At that time, 1801, the Bar of the County consisted of only thirty-three members, a number which has since been increased more than six-fold; of these only nine survive, and only one is now in practice; since that time, the officers of the Court, in the list of whom are included many names of great eminence in the profession, have been frequently changed; the constitution of the District Court has been somewhat changed, so that it is now connected with the Circuit of the Supreme Court; and the business transacted in it has greatly increased in amount, as well as changed in nature.

On the 12th of July, Hon. Peleg Sprague took the requisite oaths as successor to Judge Davis.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL., July 11. The Branch of the State Bank, located in this place, was broken open and robbed of bills and silver, to the amount of \$82,492 82. No clue has been obtained to the burglars.

NEW YORK, July 12. Mr. Justice Cowen delivered the opinion of the Supreme Court of New York, in the McLeod case, on habeas corpus; in which, after a long examination of the subject, the court rules that the prisoner must be remanded to take his trial according to the ordinary forms of law.

PENNSYLVANIA, July 24. **THE STATE LOAN.**—In order to meet the interest upon the State debt, due on the 1st of August next, Governor Porter, about a month since, notified all the Banks who are obliged, by their charters, to furnish money to the State when needed, that he should require of them the sum of \$350,000, and a few days since, arrived in Philadelphia to personally negotiate the requisition thus made. Several meetings of the representatives of the Banks were held, the result of which was, that the whole amount of money called for has been subscribed in Philadelphia city and county.

July 29. The Great Western steamship arrived in New York in 15 days from Bristol.